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CASE WORK METHODS USED BY BOSTON SOCIAL AGENCIES  
IN THE TREATMENT OF MALADJUSTED ADOLESCENT BOYS

A Thesis

Submitted by

Dorothy Bacon Pitkin

(B.S. in Ed., Boston University, 1943)

In Partial Fulfillment of Requirements for  
the Degree of Master of Science in Social Service

1946





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The Catholic Charitable Bureau

The Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study

The Children's Aid Association

The Children's Friend Society

The Church Home Society

The Family Society

The Haydon Goodwill Inn

The Judge Baker Guidance Center

The Massachusetts Boys' Pledge Association

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## PREFACE

Grateful acknowledgement is due Dr. Emil M. Hartl, Director of the Hayden Goodwill Inn, and Dr. William H. Sheldon, constitutional psychologist of the Youth Guidance Clinic of Hayden Goodwill Inn, for advice in the writing of this study.

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- The Church Home Society
- The Family Society
- The Hayden Goodwill Inn
- The Judge Baker Guidance Center
- The Massachusetts Boys' Parole Association





## CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Study

The writer intends this paper as a study of case work methods employed by Boston social agencies in the treatment of maladjusted adolescent boys. With this purpose in mind, she has held certain considerations to be of interest.

First, as a general item, she wished to find out what community resources were called upon to deal with the problems presented; that is, how much persistence and resourcefulness were exercised in helping the boys meet the needs they presented. Secondly, and more specifically, she wished to know what was effected by the agencies, through the application of different methods of case work, such as foster home placement, group foster care, clinical consultation, and supportive treatment. As a third consideration, she wished to know the approximate cost of case work service to the boys; that is, the sum which was directly expended by the agencies for each boy. Lastly, since each of the boys, during the course of agency treatment, was interviewed in a constitutional psychological clinic, it seemed of interest to determine what the constitutional clinical method adds to the general insight regarding the individual.





### Selection of Material

This study has been based upon an examination of the case histories of ten adolescent boys who have had social agency contact. These ten are included among a group of 200 boys, constituting a seven-year follow-up study now being conducted by the Hayden Goodwill Inn, a home for adolescent boys.

The 200 were selected out of more than 500 who have been at Goodwill Inn, because the contact of that agency with them lay within the seven year period from 1939 to 1946. The study of the 200 was undertaken with the purpose of (1) making an estimate of the place and function of the Goodwill Inn in its work with adolescent boys, and (2) observing the adjustment during the war years, of boys who had been at Goodwill Inn.

The selection of the ten boys of the present study was made from the 200 within the following specifications. (1) The boys had experienced one or more social agency contacts before referral to Goodwill Inn. This factor of choice was used because diagnosis and treatment at this agency is based on the method of constitutional psychology. In order to determine what new insight is brought to bear upon the problems of adolescence by this method, it seemed desirable that in each case the boys should have previously experienced the more eclectic techniques of treatment.





(2) Boys were selected so that, in all, they represented a variety of behavior problems. (3) Within the above specifications, only those were chosen who exhibited the more extreme problems.

### Method of Study

As a guide to finding out what the agencies did for the boy, the writer asked certain questions. These covered the essential general factors which each agency had to be aware of in the case of each boy, in order that it might be in a position to deal with the boy's particular problems. Questions that were asked comprise the following items: the boy's problem as seen by the referring agency; his home environment; relationship of parents and boy; his school record; the results of physical examination and of psychometric examination; the boy as viewed by the agency; diagnosis of the problem; plan for treatment and treatment follow-up; the agency's statement regarding results of treatment; reason for referral to another agency.

### Sources of Material

As sources of material, the writer has used the records of the agencies which dealt with the boys. Wherever it was possible, she interviewed workers who had known the boys. It is obvious that this method of obtaining material has limitations. The point of view presented is always that of the agency concerned with the boy, so statements





about worth of treatment may not be so objective as could be desired. Nevertheless, whatever the source, any estimate which deals with the intangibles of human personality must always be relative in value. The comparative value of the agency point of view over any outside source of appraisal lies in the fact that the agency was in a position to observe the boy throughout its entire contact with him.

In commenting upon the material presented, the writer has felt free at times to make subjective conclusions. Although she has been guided in opinion by agency statements, it has seemed that, again, any appraisal which seeks to judge the value of such a factor as the relationship between agency and client must of necessity be largely subjective in nature.

The agencies from which the material has been drawn are as follows: The Boston Travelers' Aid Society; the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study; the Catholic Charitable Bureau; the Children's Aid Association; the Church Home Society; the Children's Friend Society; the Family Society; the Hayden Goodwill Inn; the Judge Baker Guidance Center; the Massachusetts Boys' Parole.

The Travelers' Aid Society gives aid and case work services to transients. The case work approach is based on the psychoanalytical method.





The Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study was founded with the purpose of affording case work treatment to difficult boys and girls. It is maintained also for research purposes, the aim of which is to study the effect of treatment given by that agency over a ten-year period. All case work contacts are now closed, the efforts of the staff being directed toward the research study. Methods of therapy were eclectic and case work was supportive in nature and directed toward alteration of the environment. Techniques of psychometrics and physical examination were used.

The Children's Aid Association, Catholic Charitable Bureau, Children's Friend Society and Church Home Society are child placing and case working social agencies. In planning to meet the boys' needs, case work based on the psychoanalytical and eclectic methods are used. Psychological testing and medical examinations also help to diagnose needs.

The Family Society gives aid and case work services to members within families. Techniques of physical examination and psychometric, together with social diagnosis based on the psychoanalytical method are used to determine the clients' needs. Case work which is psychoanalytically oriented and that directed toward alteration of the environment are used.





The Hayden Goodwill Inn of the Morgan Memorial is a group placement home for adolescent boys. It provides vocational and educational opportunities financed through loans from the Morgan Memorial scholarship fund, case work service for resident boys and, on a special basis, for some who are non-resident. Hayden Village, a summer camp for boys, is affiliated with Goodwill Inn. Goodwill Inn maintains a Youth Guidance Clinic, under the direction of a constitutional psychologist. Diagnosis, recommendations for treatment, and case work service are based on the approach of constitutional psychology.

The Judge Baker Guidance Center is a psychiatric clinic giving diagnostic and therapeutic services to children and adolescents. The clinic is administered by psychiatrists and psychologists who are psychoanalytically trained. Case work is carried out by social workers who use the psychoanalytical approach to case work.

The Massachusetts Boys' Parole operates within the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare and is set up to maintain case work services and supervision to boys on parole from the Lyman School and the Industrial School for Boys at Shirley. Case work method is eclectic in nature.

Authority for the above statements as to function and method of the social agencies named, is given by the chief





supervisors of case work of the respective agencies. The following chapter will be devoted to a description of the constitutional approach to the diagnosis and treatment of personality disorders of boys referred to the Hayden Goodwill Inn.

philosophy which directs the application of constitutional psychology is the belief that the study of human personality should maintain a perspective upon the whole individual. In application this is an integrative approach which conceives of personality as the "dynamic organization of the cognitive, affective, conative, physiological and morphological aspects of the individual."

### Problem of Personality

In attacking the problem of personality, constitutional psychology starts with the levels of personality least subject to change, heredity and the morphological pattern.

It seems reasonable to suppose that a unifying conceptual scheme would most profitably seek anchorage in the solid flesh and bone of the individual. Perhaps if we can discern the significant variables at the level of morphology and invent scales to measure them we can devise a scheme for depicting their formal interrelations. This scheme may then provide a frame of reference for the analysis of variables at other levels: physiological functions, susceptibility to disease, manifestations of temperament, social adjustment, and so on.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> William R. Sheldon, S.S. Stevens and W.E. Tucker, The Varieties of Human Physique, p. 2.  
<sup>4</sup> Ibid., p. 7.





## CHAPTER II

### THE APPROACH OF CONSTITUTIONAL PSYCHOLOGY TO THE

### UNDERSTANDING OF THE TOTAL PERSONALITY

#### General Definition

The philosophy which directs the application of constitutional psychology is the belief that the study of human personality should maintain a perspective upon the whole individual. In application this is an integrative approach which conceives of personality as the "dynamic organization of the cognitive, affective, conative, physiological and morphological aspects of the individual."<sup>1</sup>

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I William H. Sheldon, S.B. Stevens and W.B. Tucker,  
The Varieties of Human Physique, p. 2.  
S. 1913, p. v.



As a means of measuring the variables at the level of morphology, thousands of photographs of the male body have been taken. These photographs, as well as the patterning of physique which they record, are known as somatotypes.

In somatotyping, the body is divided for convenience of measurement into five sections. Measurements are then made, which determine the relative values of the three components, endomorphy, mesomorphy and ectomorphy within each section. An average of the sum of these measurements then determines the relative value of the three components for the body as a whole.

A careful study of these photographs revealed that the most basic (first order) classification system in terms of which the continuous variations of human physique could adequately be described was based on the discrimination of the three factors... endomorphy, mesomorphy, and ectomorphy.<sup>3</sup>

Endomorphy is the factor which when predominant in an individual expresses itself in the relative predominance of the visceral functions. The tendency of a person who is predominantly endomorphic is to put on fat easily.

Predominant mesomorphy is expressed in the relative predominance of bone and muscle tissue. The mesomorph is hard and muscular.

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<sup>3</sup> Aldous Huxley, "Who Are You?", Harper's, 1134:514, November, 1944.





Ectomorphy expresses itself in a high ratio of skin surface to body mass. The ectomorph has a linear physique with slender bones and light, thready muscles.

In many individuals the three first order components are not combined harmoniously throughout the body. For instance, a person may be predominantly mesomorphic throughout four sections of his body, but in one or more of the other sections may be predominantly ectomorphic or endomorphic. This second order component is known as dysplasia.<sup>4</sup>

All individuals have some degree of bisexuality. In constitutional psychology the degrees of variation are considered to be significant. Scales for measuring bisexuality, or as it is known in constitutional psychology, gynandromorphy, and for measuring dysplasia are in use.

#### Primary Components of Temperament

According to constitutional psychology, the three first order morphological components of endomorphy, mesomorphy and ectomorphy express themselves in the three components or dynamics of behavior known as visceretonia, somatotonia, and cerebretonia. Each of these temperament components are represented by clusters of traits.

Conspicuous among the traits represented by visceretonia are relaxation in posture and movement, love of physical comfort, sociophilia, or orientation toward people, and

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constitutional psychology the degrees of variation are considered to be significant. Scales for measuring bisexuality, or as it is known in constitutional psychology, xyromorphy, and for measuring diaplasia are in use.

#### Primary Components of Temperament

According to constitutional psychology, the three first order morphological components of endomorphy, mesomorphy and ectomorphy express themselves in the three components or dynamics of behavior known as viscerotonia, somatotonia, and cerebration. Each of these temperament components are represented by clusters of traits. Conspicuous among the traits represented by viscerotonia are relaxation in posture and movement, love of physical comfort, sociophilia, or orientation toward people, and

<sup>4</sup> Sheldon, Stevens and Tucker, op. cit., p. 7.



extraversion of viscerotonia, which refers to the extraverted behavior of the viscerotonic in contrast to that of the somatotonic person. The viscerotonic loves food and comfort and is dependent on the emotional support of others.

Somatotonia is characterized by the love of physical adventure and risk. The somatotonic person loves energetic movement. He is extraverted in the sense that he is insensitive to other people. He feels no need to confide his feelings. He is often ruthless and given to domination of others.

Cerebrotonia is associated with restraint in posture and movement, love of privacy and mental overintensity. The cerebrotonic person is given to emotional restraint. It is hard for him to express his feelings, and he is not happy in a crowd. The cerebrotonic person is known often as an introvert.

#### Relation of Second Order Morphological Components to Temperament

Several second order components are taken into consideration in attempting to relate the morphological pattern of the individual to his temperament. Significant among these are the secondary factors of dysplasia and gynandromorphy.

The problem that dysplasia may present in a personality is the problem of conflicting drives, deriving from the fact that the morphological components are not harmon-

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#### Relation of Second Order Morphological Components to Temperament

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iously integrated. This physical condition may be productive of conflict on the psychological level.

As found in constitutional psychology high degrees of gynandromorphy may be productive of highly integrated personalities who operate at a high level of achievement to the benefit of themselves and of society. On the other hand, gynandromorphy may, in some individuals, operate as a deteriorative element, resulting in homosexuality. According to this concept, the factor of bisexuality is not as important a factor in the homosexual picture as the consideration of the degenerative aspects of the total personality. Thus, this concept takes into account whether the integrated structure of the personality levels was or was not able to withstand the drive toward homosexuality.

The reader is referred to Figure I, page 12a, for the complete list of traits associated with viscerotonia, somatotonia, and cerebretonia. Further discussion of the constitutional approach to the understanding of the total personality is found in the Appendix, page 99.

#### Youth Guidance Clinic of Hayden Goodwill Inn

In general, the Youth Guidance Clinic is maintained by the Hayden Goodwill Inn as a means of diagnosing the boys' needs, and to give recommendations as to treatment. All boys in residence, except those who are housed as transients only, and those who are receiving therapy or

highly integrated. This physical condition may be productive of conflict on the psychological level. As found in constitutional psychology high degrees of gynandromorphism may be productive of highly integrated personalities who operate at a high level of achievement to the benefit of themselves and of society. On the other hand, gynandromorphism may, in some individuals, operate as a degenerative element, resulting in homosexuality. According to this concept, the factor of bisexuality is not as important a factor in the homosexual picture as the consideration of the degenerative aspects of the total personality. Thus, this concept takes into account whether the integrated structure of the personality levels was or was not able to withstand the drive toward homosexuality. The reader is referred to Figure I, page 18a, for the complete list of traits associated with viscerotonia, somatonia, and cerebrotonia. Further discussion of the constitutional approach to the understanding of the total personality is found in the Appendix, page 93.

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## THE SCALE FOR TEMPERAMENT

	Date	Photo No.	Scored by
I VISCEROTONIA....	II SOMATOTONIA....	III CEREBROTONIA....	
1. Relaxation in Posture and Movement	( ) 1. Assertiveness of Posture and Movement	( ) 1. Restraint in Posture and Movement, Tightness	
2. Love of Physical Comfort	( ) 2. Love of Physical Adventure	— 2. Physiological Over-response	
3. Slow Reaction	( ) 3. The Energetic Characteristic	( ) 3. Overly Fast Reactions	
4. Love of Eating	( ) 4. Need and Enjoyment of Exercise	( ) 4. Love of Privacy	
5. Socialization of Eating	— 5. Love of Dominating, Lust for Power	( ) 5. Mental Overintensity, Hyperattentionality, Apprehensiveness	
6. Pleasure in Digestion	( ) 6. Love of Risk and Chance	( ) 6. Secretiveness of Feeling, Emotional Restraint	
7. Love of Polite Ceremony	( ) 7. Bold Directness of Manner	( ) 7. Self-conscious Motility of the Eyes and Face	
8. Sociophilia	( ) 8. Physical Courage for Combat	( ) 8. Sociophobia	
9. Indiscriminate Amiability	( ) 9. Competitive Aggressiveness	( ) 9. Inhibited Social Address	
10. Greed for Affection and Approval	— 10. Psychological Callousness	— 10. Resistance to Habit, and Poor Routinizing	
11. Orientation to People	— 11. Claustrophobia	— 11. Agoraphobia	
12. Evenness of Emotional Flow	— 12. Ruthlessness, Freedom from Squeamishness	— 12. Unpredictability of Attitude	
13. Tolerance	( ) 13. The Unrestrained Voice	( ) 13. Vocal Restraint, and General Restraint of Noise	
14. Complacency	— 14. Spartan Indifference to Pain	— 14. Hypersensitivity to Pain	
15. Deep Sleep	— 15. General Noisiness	— 15. Poor Sleep Habits, Chronic Fatigue	
16. The Untempered Characteristic	( ) 16. Overmaturity of Appearance	( ) 16. Youthful Intentness of Manner and Appearance	
17. Smooth, Communication of Feeling, Extraversion of Viscerotonia	— 17. Horizontal Mental Cleavage, Extraversion of Somatotonia	— 17. Vertical Mental Cleavage, Introversion	
18. Relaxation and Sociophilia under Alcohol	— 18. Assertiveness and Aggression under Alcohol	— 18. Resistance to Alcohol, and to other Depressant Drugs	
19. Need of People when Troubled	— 19. Need of Action when Troubled	— 19. Need of Solitude when Troubled	
20. Orientation toward Childhood and Family Relationships	— 20. Orientation toward Goals and Activities of Youth	— 20. Orientation toward the Later Periods of Life	

NOTE: The thirty traits with brackets constitute collectively the short form of the scale.

Courtesy of Dr. William H. Sheldon





case work treatment from other agencies, are seen in the Clinic.

#### CASE STUDIES

Services in the Clinic include a physical examination, psychometric, constitutional analysis, the taking of a social history and interviews by the constitutional psychologist. The psychologist bases his diagnosis and recommendations on findings from the above data.

Environment was unwholesome. Although he had never been caught by the police in a delinquent act, he was regarded in the neighborhood as a tough youngster. At school, he was hyperactive, fidgety and nervous. Because the home was conducive to delinquency in an unstable boy, the Cambridge Welfare Society had referred him to the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study for case work and supervisory care.

This agency made a thorough investigation of the home and neighborhood with the purpose of learning the nature of the environment and to what degree it was unwholesome.

It was found by the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study worker that twenty social agencies had worked extensively with the family for the past ten years. The father, born in Italy, had served a prison sentence for assault with a dangerous weapon. Three of Vincent's older brothers had appeared before the Juvenile Court for larceny, breaking and entering, and one had served a prison sentence for





## CHAPTER III

## CASE STUDIES

1. Delinquent Family

Vincent was referred to the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study, on October 4, 1938, by the Cambridge Welfare Society, at age 12 years and 8 months. It was reported by the referring society that his family environment was unwholesome. Although he had never been caught by the police in a delinquent act, he was regarded in the neighborhood as a tough youngster. At school, he was hyperactive, fidgety and nervous. Because the home was conducive to delinquency in an unstable boy, the Cambridge Welfare Society had referred him to the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study for case work and supervisory care.

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It was found by the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study worker that twenty social agencies had worked extensively with the family for the past ten years. The father, born in Italy, had served a prison sentence for assault with a dangerous weapon. Three of Vincent's older brothers had appeared before the Juvenile Court for larceny, breaking and entering, and one had served a prison sentence for





armed assault. Two sisters had been on parole with the Juvenile Court for sex delinquency.

The family generally had a poor health history. Vincent's younger brother suffered from a condition diagnosed at the Massachusetts General Hospital as Hodgkins Disease. Another brother had epileptic seizures from birth. The mother, also born in Italy, was described as being "sick in a confused and complete sort of way, - a sickness involving all the internal organs of her body." Under treatment at the Cambridge City Hospital for heart trouble, this condition was severe enough to cause edema, which in winter nearly closed her eyes. Although she was well meaning and affectionate, she was unable, because of these disabilities, to take care of the home, reported to be unbelievably filthy. School offered no constructive influence.

Described as "dashing, clever and unscrupulous", the father, an alcoholic, had been abusive of the children. Beating them, he would kick them as they tried to crawl under the table to get away from his boots. He had been stabbed to death in a drunken brawl. After his death, the older brothers had taken over his way of discipline, kicking and swatting younger brothers, sometimes into insensibility. Since the father's death, the family had been chiefly supported by City Welfare, which appeared to be inadequate. Two of the older brothers sometimes helped the





family at home, which, besides the mother, consisted of four children, including Vincent.

The neighborhood was found to be one of the worst delinquency districts in East Cambridge. A marginal area, close to a factory district, it had many barrooms and several gangs. These were given to stealing from warehouses and freight cars, the goods disposed of to several local "fences". Principally it was known as a "car stripping" neighborhood, in which stolen cars, after being "looped" were stripped by boys for junk.

Known throughout the area as "the Squirrel", Vincent was regarded by the neighborhood as one of the more destructive and troublesome members of the younger gangs, feared as a bully by smaller boys. It was felt that this "chaotic home" and neighborhood offered no constructive influence.

Vincent was described at school as exhibiting "neurotic behavior", and as being hyperactive, and given to extreme mood swings. Sometimes delighting in bullying the smaller children, at other times he would appear excessively fatigued and fall asleep in class. In the fourth grade, at age 12, he had been in seventeen different home rooms to reach that grade. He frequently expressed a dislike of school where he had to be with the "little kids". A school psychometric placed the IQ at 74. Besides the difficulty inherent in mentality approaching the borderline, the school





thought the boy had a reading disability. The question was also raised as to whether the frequent sleepiness had a pathological basis.

The agency saw the problem as involving several factors. (1) The boy appeared to be of bad heredity. (2) His home and neighborhood environment were destructive in influence. (3) His mood swings were perhaps indicative of pathology. (4) Retarded in school as a result of low intelligence and a reading disability, he was bitter at being placed with small children.

Carried over several years, the treatment comprised three policies. First, diagnosis and treatment of medical and psychological conditions were sought. Second, a close supportive relationship was established in the hope that the boy might develop confidence which would act towards educational motivation and militate against the sense of inferiority. To this end the worker arranged excursions and had many interviews with the boy. Third, interests were fostered which might act as a constructive counteracting influence against the delinquent propensities.

Because the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study worker thought it was desirable to rule out the question of epilepsy in a boy given to periods of sleepiness and in whose family there was epilepsy, an encephalogram was made at the Massachusetts General Hospital. In an interview with the





doctor in the neurological clinic, it was learned that some tendency toward epilepsy was present, without evidence of petit mal. A year's tutoring at the Boston University Psychological-Educational Clinic was arranged.

Among the few solitary interests Vincent showed, other than those of gang activities, was a liking for pigeons and animals. These the boy said he liked to "hold in his hands and not just read about". In the hope that this interest might develop into something constructive, a farm placement was made, and, at another time, the boy was introduced to a dealer in fancy pigeons, in the hope that the man's influence might prove constructive.

Another strong characteristic shown by the boy was an almost "mediaeval sense of sin", which often impelled him to find fault with other boys for not going to church. This tendency was utilized in the establishment of a relationship between Vincent and the parish priest, who became interested in developing a more wholesome religious sense in the boy, and whose custom it became to see the boy once a week.

As a corrective towards unwholesome sex attitudes instruction in sex ideology was given. Case work relationship with the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study was brought to a close in April, 1943. At this time, Vincent, aged 17, had been referred to the Hayden Goodwill Inn. He was on





parole from the Lyman School, having been committed there for a six months' period during 1941 and 1942.

Several statements were made regarding results of treatment by the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study. During the six years of treatment, Vincent had had seventeen Juvenile Court appearances, mostly for breaking windows and breaking and entering. Three Juvenile Court convictions had been made, the first two for stealing and disposing of stolen goods. One of these convictions had resulted in a six months' commitment to the Lyman School. The third conviction had occurred after he had obtained a job through the United States Employment Service, where he had been directed by the worker, when he seemed to be in a depressed and quarrelsome mood during a period of parole from Lyman School. Appearing to be in a confident frame of mind after obtaining the job, in a few hours he had broken into a store and stolen money from a cash register, later explaining that when he thought of the imminent job he felt that he could not rest until he had damaged something.

It was felt by the worker that a few items in his relationship with the agency had been of benefit to Vincent.

(1) The year's tutoring had brought some improvement in reading ability, resulting in two years' promotion. It appeared that the tutoring had been instrumental in showing that the boy's IQ was higher than recorded at school, since





following a general improvement in learning skills, the IQ was given as 91. (2) His condition in regard to epilepsy had been fairly well established. (3) It was felt that the boy had shown some response to a forceful personal interrelationship, although no evidence of what this might mean to the boy was shown in his behavior.

Aside from these considerations, the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study worker felt that the long period of treatment comprising case work supervision, attempts to foster interests, and the various friendship relationships of priests, pigeon fancier, and others, had been largely negative in result in the light of the repeated delinquency records. Placed on a farm so that he could have opportunity to care for animals, and so that the worker might have evidence for deciding how important were environmental influences in producing maladjusted behavior, Vincent had become so homesick that the worker had been forced to bring him home. Stating that he preferred swimming in the canal to the swimming hole at the farm, Vincent gave the worker to understand that he had not been able to adjust to life apart from the gang's activities around the tracks, even though he had often declared that he could not be good in such an environment.

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Court convictions for repeated delinquency had occurred and the last episode had appeared to be caused by compulsive



behavior, in that the boy, faced with the thought of the job, stated that he could not rest until he had done something wrong, hurt someone or stolen something.

The worker believed that reasons for the treatment not being efficacious lay in the fact of the boy's "bad heredity and bad environment". Examined by the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study psychiatrist, Vincent was said to be "an egocentric, unstable individual, bound to continually thwart himself since he cannot face the total situation, and himself as facing it. Since he cannot do this, he must rationalize according to his intelligence." Because of this rationalizing tendency, the boy was considered to be paranoid in nature, although in no danger of psychosis at the time, because of his youth. Some evidence of neurological damage was also thought to be present.

Vincent's stay at Lyman School extended from August 21, 1941, to February 22, 1942. He was then 15. At this time he had been under case work treatment with the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study for two years and nine months. The commitment to Lyman School was for stealing and disposing of stolen goods. After he had been at the school about a week he was sent to the disciplinary cottage through being involved in a run away plan.

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the course of intelligence testing in which the IQ was considered to be dull normal, it was found at the School that he showed a high degree of effort and energy. Insight, however, was considered to be poor and all responses superficial. The psychiatrist at Lyman School believed that there were indications of mental aberration.

When he left Lyman School it was stated that although at first he was considered to be one of the worst boys, he was looked upon at the end as one of the boys Lyman School had done the most for. He was thought to be the best worker in the "hennery unit".

In April, 1943, Vincent, at age 17, was referred to Hayden Goodwill Inn by the parole officer of Lyman School, and the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study. At Goodwill Inn it was understood that the boy was referred because he needed the contact of group environment and a more wholesome background than his home could give him, during the period of parole. The staff at Goodwill Inn understood that the boy needed to be watched for aggressive behavior of a compulsive nature.

In conformity with general practice at Hayden Goodwill Inn, Vincent was seen in the Youth Guidance Clinic after the lapse of a few weeks, during which time observations were made of his adjustment. For each boy, a summary and suggestions for treatment are drawn up upon the consid-

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eration of five points. These are: (1) family background and family origins; (2) school history and achievements; (3) constitutional data which include the morphology and temperament of the boy, his medical history and his IQ; (4) his delinquency history; and (5) his running record in the Inn.

Vincent was found to be of short, squat mesomorphic physique, with a heavy secondary endomorphy. The arms were weak and most of the strength appeared to be in the trunk and thighs. There was poor general bodily coordination. This morphology was represented as that of a centrotonic physique.

It was explained in the constitution clinic that in this condition the biological focus seems to be central, rather than peripheral, in that there is relatively poor circulation in the hands and feet, while the energies of the body seem to be largely concentrated within the central mass of the physique.

The peripherotonic people seemed to have their principal strengths and sensitivities in the skin and in the extremities. They thus seemed "biologically extraverted" and seemed forced to protect themselves from overstimulation by becoming socially introverted. The centrotonic people appeared to have their principal strength (as well as their concentration of mass) centrally located. They thus seemed relatively insensitive to peripheral stimulation. Being in this sense biologically introverted, they tended to become socially extraverted.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> William H. Sheldon and S. S. Stevens, The Varieties of Temperament, p. 44.

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Following clinical interviews with the boy and study of the five points as previously listed, the psychologist stated that the boy's mainspring of action appeared to be a craving to express his will directly upon the environment; to be served by others. The psychologist said that the boy's temperament was an adequate expression of the total constitutional picture. The constitutional pattern was primarily the expression of poor heredity and an inferior morphological make-up, and secondarily of centrotonic drives which are associated principally with extraversion of the somatonic kind; namely, the will to exploit others. This constitutional patterning was aggravated by poor environment background. The IQ was here placed at 80, and it was said that the boy was "far from being feeble minded".

At the constitution clinic it was stated that the prognosis, although not good for society in the ideal sense, was for the boy, fair. In large measure this was believed due to the strong secondary endomorphy associated with warm sociophilia and a tendency to grow heavier in middle age. It was believed at this clinic that these tendencies might act as "a snowing under" factor toward the more aggressive anti-social tendencies.

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Throughout his stay at Goodwill Inn, attempts had been made through case work interviews to give the boy an understanding of the responsibility of group living. He



was given the opportunity of directing simple maintenance jobs. At first appearing to adjust well, Vincent became progressively stubborn and noncooperative and at times destructive of Inn property. Despite the fact that Vincent at times gave signs of "wanting to belong", the Inn accomplished little in its attempt to instill in him a sense of responsibility toward the group community. After six months he was discharged by the agency to the custody of his parole officer as being unsuited to the life at Goodwill Inn.

This boy was referred for case work treatment because it was felt that the influence of a delinquent family might precipitate delinquency in a boy who exhibited neurotic behavior.

Efforts were made to determine whether behavior was attributable to a pathological condition through an encephalogram and interviews with the doctor at the Massachusetts General Hospital. It does not appear that it was satisfactorily established that the boy's behavior was not in some measure attributable to pathology, for following Juvenile Court conviction for breaking and entering six years later, the question of neurological condition as a factor predisposing toward neurotic behavior was again raised.

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raised the ceiling somewhat on the recorded IQ.

Attempts were made toward establishing stability of character through supervisory case work and the fostering of interests which might act as a constructive influence. In the opinion of the first agency dealing with the boy, the results of these efforts were largely negative. This agency decided that the forces of environment, particularly as evidenced in the boy's reaction toward being parted, through farm placement, from his gang haunts, exerted a stronger pull than interests which the agency held out to him. One agency raised the question of psychotic behavior, coupled with bad heredity, while in another a possibly psychotic condition was hinted at in the question of "mental aberration".

The constitution clinic considered the boy's behavior to be motivated principally by bad heredity, and an inferior morphological pattern. In large measure the constitution as related to temperament was considered in terms of the centrotonic drives exhibited by the boy. These drives were expressed in exploitation of other persons and of the environment. The constitution clinic psychologist explained that when drives of such a nature are not subject to the disciplinary force of wholesome environmental pressures during the formative years, the prognosis for society is unfavorable, although the individual himself will probably

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make his way.

A good adjustment was made in a disciplined environment - Lyman School. One wonders, in the face of frequent delinquent court appearances, why more of this treatment which appeared to have beneficial effect, was not given.

## 2. Masturbatory Practices

Kenneth was referred by the Newton Family Service Bureau to Southard Clinic of the Boston Psychopathic Hospital on July 13, 1938. He had been brought to the attention of the Family Service Bureau by his mother because on several occasions she had discovered the boy masturbating. She thought that he must be "oversexed like his father", from whom she had been divorced for eight years.

To be in a position to carry out effective case work with the boy, the Newton Family Service Bureau made a thorough investigation of the home and had several interviews with the boy.

It was found that Kenneth had lived at home very little since his parents' divorce. The mother, working as a maid, earned \$10 weekly and lived at her employer's. During the past eight years Kenneth had been boarded in thirty different foster homes, many of them farm homes. Lawrence, the only other sibling, older than Kenneth, was under the care of the Division of Child Guardianship.

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Hospital Kenneth, aged 14, was living in a farm foster home selected by his mother. The foster parents were friends of the mother, and, according to her, "did not like Kenneth". Highly disturbing and somewhat confused tales of Kenneth's attempts to have sex relations with the animals on the farm had been told the mother by the foster father, who thought the "cussedness should be beaten out of him". Leaving school after the eighth grade, Kenneth had been earning his board as farm hand in the present home for the past two years.

Kenneth appeared to the agency as a simple, quiet boy with "a somewhat stolid air of bewilderment". The agency found that he was not happy in the present farm home but seemed to have little idea as to what should be done about himself, or into what sort of home he would like to go. He was content to let his mother make plans for him. Because the apathetic attitude seemed indicative of a neurotic condition, possibly related to the problem of masturbation, the agency sought psychiatric counsel.

At the Southard Clinic, where his IQ was found to be 95, it was said that the boy had been developing fast and undoubtedly experienced physiological tension. No abnormal mood condition was found. The mother's anxiety regarding sex practices was thought unfortunate, and it seemed advisable to send him to camp for the summer, since it was

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Camp referral was made too late for Kenneth to be accepted. Instead, referral to the Children's Aid Association was made on September 13, 1938, for the purpose of foster home placement where the boy might have the stimulation of normal home life.

A medical examination at the Boston Preventive Clinic associated with the Children's Aid Association showed essentially negative findings. This last agency made two placements, covering a period of nine months, the end in view being that "a boy without ties or permanency" or opportunity for vocational advancement might have a chance to lead a normal, organized life and also have the opportunity of attending Trade School. He was discharged from care when the mother removed him from the foster home, having secured a home herself through advertisement.

There had been no sex difficulties mentioned by foster parents. However, the agency thought Kenneth was not such good material as appeared at first. Although he had ability, he seemed to lack interest or drive, and it seemed impossible to instill in him any desire for vocational advancement. He was content with inferior aims. The program had ended in failure although in the first school he had done fairly

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well. Showing little interest in most of the mechanical courses at the second school, he failed for a month to bring in completed assignments. Finally he was dropped after being discovered in the locker room smoking cigarettes and reading comics. He showed no interest in further schooling and appeared mildly content to return to farm life.

He was again referred in March, 1940, by the mother, who was not satisfied with the home she had found; there was also further trouble with masturbation. In order to deal more effectively this time with the boy's needs, the agency sought clinical advice from the Judge Baker Guidance Center.

This agency found that the boy had become insecure through excessive home changes, and as a result had never formed good habits of meeting situations. It was known that the mother, in her late teens, had become pregnant, while working in the employ of a man running a small store. Married to this man before the birth of the first child, she had nevertheless felt herself disgraced; felt that her husband made excessive sex demands upon her. It was thought she projected her guilt feelings on Kenneth. For this reason she had difficulty in maintaining a stable attitude in regard to him and was not able to recognize his wants adequately. She knew that the boy had need of insight into his feelings of inferiority, but it was thought that she was

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not sufficiently strong and flexible herself to help him gain this. She confessed that she was most concerned about his reported masturbation after reading of sex crimes in the paper.

To the staff at this agency the boy appeared to be a lad of rather simple sweet expression and smile, one who "tended to freeze up when out of his depth". He was found to have marked mechanical ability, and it was recommended that he be placed in a group setting such as Hayden Goodwill Inn, where he would have normal contacts with boys of his age and be given the opportunity to learn a mechanical trade. It was said that "he was well worth doing for".

In the Youth Guidance Clinic of the Hayden Goodwill Inn, the boy's somatotype was shown as nearly "mid range", that is, exhibiting nearly equal proportions of endomorphy, mesomorphy and ectomorphy. There was very marked dysplasia throughout the trunk and legs and some ectomorphic interference in the forearms. It was thought that he showed no signs of intellectual maturity, and the question was raised of deep dissociation within the personality, since he showed no ambition or serious interest of any kind. The question of a preschizophrenic condition was raised. Recommendations were that he should be placed in Trade School for the remaining school year while earning keep through maintenance work and that he should be placed at Hayden Village Camp that

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summer where general observation would be kept. If he did well he could be "pushed" through another school year, thereby strengthening his chances of becoming self-supporting.

On January 14, 1941, Kenneth was discharged as a residence case. He was continued on a service case basis until October 6, 1942, when he joined the Navy.

A summary states that Hayden Goodwill Inn stood by the boy in a fluid adolescent period and offered a chance for cultivation of personal interests. Besides security in respect to food and shelter, Kenneth was given the opportunity of friendly contact with counsellors and with contemporaries. A Trade School program was worked out cooperatively with the Children's Aid Association, financed through the Morgan Memorial scholarship fund, though the boy did not more than finish the year when referred. There appeared to be no problem with masturbation within the group, although the boy "was highly sexed". Following an episode when he and another boy stole money from the camp superintendent at South Athol, Kenneth was placed on probation to the Juvenile Court for two years, during which time he was continued at the Inn on a service case work basis. Although he was not a "group boy" at the Inn, the staff here thought that he had gained in ability to relate himself to interests of boys his age. It was the opinion of the staff

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that the Inn had offered a setting for "a bewildered boy" to try out natural aptitudes, particularly in the fact that at Hayden Village he had helped to carry through many jobs requiring skill in mechanics.

A follow-up progress note in the Hayden Goodwill Inn record states that Kenneth did well in the Navy. One among the second "wave" ashore at Tarawa, he received a Presidential Citation for gallantry in action. Still in the Navy, he "has no plans for the future". He is married; has no children.

This boy referred for masturbatory practices appeared to the various agencies as an insecure, apathetic boy. Psychiatric consultation was sought because of the boy's lack of interest, and it was the opinion of the psychiatric clinics that no abnormal emotional condition was present. Two foster home placements made in an effort to develop security within the boy, and to give him a chance for vocational advancement, had in the main, negative results. This was perhaps to be expected for this fifteen year old boy, of an age not generally considered to be suited to foster home placing.

Because of lack of interest shown by the boy, the constitution clinic raised the question of a preschizophrenic condition. When the boy was placed in a group setting, however, he adjusted fairly well and through contact with

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### 3. Transient Homeless

Fenton appeared at the Traveler's Aid desk in the South Station one day in March, 1940. Two weeks previous he had been discharged from a CCC Camp in Colorado. His family had turned him out. He had no money and knew of no place to go. Aged 18, he was a slight frail boy with a sad face, very difficult to interview, since he looked at the worker with a silly expression and mumbled so that he was almost unintelligible. He gave the impression of having "a strong resistance to bathing and changing his underwear" and of being retarded both physically and mentally.

Housing the boy at the Goodwill Inn, the Traveler's Aid Society assumed case work relationship with the boy, a service which was maintained for one year.

The agency learned that the mother had died when Fenton was small, and the father had remarried. There was one other sibling, the child of the stepmother and father, on whom the parents concentrated their attention.

Since age 6, Fenton had been running away from home, sometimes for a day or two at a time. Once, having been given money for eggs, he bought eggs and carried them with him all day, returning home late at night, when he was beaten by his father. Several years back, there had been a delinquency episode, mild in nature, in which Fenton, with

his contemporaries developed interests natural to his age.

### 3. Transient Homeless

Fenton appeared at the Traveler's Aid desk in the South Station one day in March, 1940. Two weeks previous he had been discharged from a CCC Camp in Colorado. His family had turned him out. He had no money and knew of no place to go. Aged 18, he was a slight freckled boy with a sad face, very difficult to interview, since he looked at the worker with a silly expression and mumbled so that he was almost unintelligible. He gave the impression of having "a strong resistance to bathing and changing his underwear" and of being retarded both physically and mentally.

Housing the boy at the Goodwill Inn, the Traveler's Aid Society assumed case work relationship with the boy, a service which was maintained for one year.

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Since age 6, Fenton had been running away from home, sometimes for a day or two at a time. Once, having been given money for eggs, he bought eggs and carried them with him all day, returning home late at night, when he was beaten by his father. Several years back, there had been a delinquency episode, mild in nature, in which Fenton, with



two other boys, had been convicted of stealing a suitcase. Fenton's share in the event had been restricted to merely holding the suitcase while the boys had signalled for help from others, but it had been sufficient to place him on probation for two years. Reported by the stepmother to "abuse himself", she stated that she was too embarrassed to take responsibility, either in care or planning for him, and said that his father was too disgusted to even talk with the worker about the boy. On his return from CCC Camp, Fenton had been discovered masturbating in public by the stepmother, who had had him committed for observation to Danvers. The parents had hoped the hospital would keep him permanently and had been disturbed when he was released after a ten day observation period. It was learned by the Traveler's Aid Society that at Danvers he was thought to be of constitutional inferior make-up and that his behavior was due to that factor plus environmental factors in the rejection of his family. The IQ was considered to be adequate.

Unsuccessful in the effort to have the family assume responsibility, the Traveler's Aid maintained the boy at the Hayden Goodwill Inn while attempts were made to establish the boy in several jobs. Within a few days he would either be discharged or quit the job. Since he was believed to be too immature for group placement at Goodwill Inn, placing agencies were approached to assume his care. Clinical

two other boys, had been convicted of stealing a suitcase. Newton's share in the event had been restricted to merely holding the suitcase while the boys had signalled for help from others, but it had been sufficient to place him on probation for two years. Reported by the stepmother to "tease himself", she stated that she was too embarrassed to take responsibility, either in care or planning for him, and said that his father was too disgusted to even talk with the worker about the boy. On his return from GCG Camp, Newton had been discovered masturbating in public by the stepmother, who had had him committed for observation to Danvers. The parents had hoped the hospital would keep him permanently and had been disturbed when he was released after a ten day observation period. It was learned by the Traveler's Aid Society that at Danvers he was thought to be of constitutional inferior make-up and that his behavior was due to that factor plus environmental factors in the rejection of his family. The IQ was considered to be adequate. Unsuccessful in the effort to have the family assume responsibility, the Traveler's Aid maintained the boy at the Hayden Goodwill Inn while attempts were made to establish the boy in several jobs. Within a few days he would either be discharged or quit the job. Since he was believed to be too immature for group placement at Goodwill Inn, placing agencies were approached to assume his care. Clinical



advice was sought at the Judge Baker Guidance Center.

Approached first, the Catholic Charitable Bureau made a home investigation and had several interviews with the boy. It was thought by this agency that the boy had been rejected by the family from an early age and that the mother used the discussion of masturbation as the rationalization of her rejection. Since no certificate of baptism could be found and since the boy seemed to have no interest in Catholicism, never attending church, the Catholic Charitable Bureau decided against placement.

Simultaneous referrals were made to the Children's Aid Association and the Judge Baker Guidance Center.

This last agency, in January, 1941, found that the boy had always been rejected and deprived of love and affection and that his family had shown no understanding or desire to help a boy who showed himself inadequate socially. Although it was felt that he was a very immature individual from the standpoint of planning his future, this agency stated that account had to be taken of his distorted life situation, in which everything normal had been denied the boy. School progress had also been complicated by feelings of inferiority, the boy having left school in grade nine.

At the Judge Baker Guidance Center the IQ was found to be average, although the boy did poorly on tests of apperception and reasoning. It was said that, aside from short-

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ness of stature, there were no signs of constitutional inferior make-up. The boy's condition, it was said, could be explained in the terms of one who was still living in a child's world, seeking satisfaction of a very simple sort on the emotional level of a very young child.

It seemed obvious to the Judge Baker Guidance Center that such an individual could not adjust to a group situation. The boy himself had suggested a farm home where he could work and be a "real member of the family". The agency felt that this was worth trying experimentally and suggested that, after such a period, the clinic would be in much better position to make a diagnosis and prognosis in the boy's case. More particularly it was thought that he should be seen again in regard to the sex problem.

Fenton was placed from February, 1941, to December, 1941, by the Children's Aid Association. Throughout their care, the boy was regarded by this agency as "one of the most disorganized boys seen in a long time". He was placed in a home sometimes used by the agency, where, in exchange for board and room, the boys were expected to help with the care of a paralytic. Here it was hoped that he might overcome the feeling of inferiority and become self-supporting as soon as possible, as well as "gain self respect with improvement in personal cleanliness".

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At the end of ten months it was felt in the foster



home that the boy had made all the improvement he was capable of, and the foster father asked for his removal. Summarizing the progress during placement, the agency said that the boy had become independent to the extent of being able to lead a young people's meeting at the church. But in the middle of anything he attempted to do, the boy invariably said, "I can't do it." Nevertheless, it was stated that his employer had been able to get "considerable out of him", under supervision. It was thought the boy had made some slight progress toward becoming more dependable. However, it was only as he was supervised that any task was carried through.

Before removing him from the work home, the Traveler's Aid Society returned Fenton to the Judge Baker Guidance Center for the follow-up interviews subsequent to placement. Here it was thought that his work and home adjustment had been one of an incompetent youth, and it was believed that he would never adjust well to either of these areas of living. It was recommended that he be placed in a group setting, where he would have security and supervision. The diagnostic impression of Judge Baker Guidance Center concerning Fenton was that of Constitutional Inferior Psychopath of Vagabond Type.

Following consultation at the above agency, the Traveler's Aid placed Fenton at the Hayden Goodwill Inn in





January, 1942, requesting cooperative case work and vocational guidance on a job hunting basis.

In the Youth Guidance Clinic, Fenton's somatotype was found to be highly dysplastic with endomorphy predominant. A marked ectomorphic dominance was found in the head and thoracic regions and an ectomorphic increment in other regions. It was stated in the Clinic that such a condition is sometimes associated with schizophrenia. High primary gynandromorphy was found to be present.

The boy was thought by the psychologist to be pathologically low in somatonia. The outlook was considered to warrant institutionalization, although it was doubted if institutional placement could ever be effected since the boy's IQ was well above borderline and since no actual psychosis was present. The diagnosis was that of Constitutional Physiological Inferiority.

After six months, the Hayden Goodwill Inn returned Fenton to the care of the Children's Aid Association.

Attempts had been made to "clean up the boy" and to find jobs for him. Neither effort was successful.

It is of interest to note that the boy returns sporadically to pay a visit to Goodwill Inn. He is reported to be in and out of jobs; to present the same passive attitude; to be living in boarding houses, hallways, cinemas and restaurants.

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In this case of this transient vagabond boy, efforts were made toward adjustment on social and vocational bases. Throughout the course of agency treatment by Traveler's Aid, Children's Aid Association and the Goodwill Inn, attention was also directed toward emotional independence on the part of the boy, through encouraging him to assume leadership of a group, and through numerous job placements. With the exception of some slight progress as shown under the work placement arranged by the Children's Aid, none of these efforts toward self dependence or life orientation for this shy, gentle, baffled boy were rewarded by success. It is very likely that adjustment for this individual, diagnosed by three agencies as constitutionally inferior, is possible only within the protective supervision of an institutional setting. At present such an institution, one which can meet the needs of a boy who is constitutionally inferior, but who is neither feeble-minded nor psychotic, does not exist.

#### 4. Attempted Suicide

Otto was referred to the Children's Aid Association by the Boston Psychopathic Hospital on March 10, 1938. He was then 15 years old. On March 1, he had been sent to the Boston Psychopathic Hospital from the City Hospital following an episode in which he had attempted suicide by turning on the gas stove. At the Boston Psychopathic Hospital he was found to have no delusions nor hallucinations, and the

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diagnosis was given as Psychoneurosis, Reactive Depression and Hysteria. ~~Psychiatric interviews were continued until it~~

Otto's mother had died when he was 16 months old, and the father had been dead four years. For three years he had lived with a married brother, who had beaten him. When this brother deserted his wife, Otto had gone to live with a married sister. Here there was friction between Otto and his sister's husband, but when Otto wanted to apply for care from the State, the sister objected that this would bring disgrace on the family. The boy stated that, following arguments with his sister, his legs became like ice, and, feeling very depressed finally, he had tried to take his life.

Otto impressed the Children's Aid worker as a "sick boy", who had become very vulnerable through an unwholesome environment. It was felt by this worker that he needed the stabilizing influence of knowing that he could support himself rather than return to school; he had left school the past year, finishing only the tenth grade. From April until November, 1938, Otto was placed by the Children's Aid Association in a wage home. During this period psychiatric treatment was continued at the Southard Clinic.

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of group life, when he was referred to the Hayden Goodwill Inn. The psychiatric interviews were continued until it seemed to the Children's Aid worker that they appeared to be "doing him more harm than good".

Reviewing the boy's progress while under care of the Children's Aid Association, it was stated by this agency that at first the boy's attitude was nearly a constant one of wary abstraction. Often he talked rapidly, as though he were having some sort of spell "and had to talk fast to get himself out of it". He was reported to be a fairly dependable worker in the home and, during the last two months, earned sufficient money to buy new clothes. It was thought that evidence of a gradual approach to good adjustment was shown in the decision to change his name. Having always had a Polish name, he told the worker he would feel more at home as an American if he had an American name. The worker also thought that, since his family had shown little interest in him, the boy was taking this means of showing his independence. With the approval and advice of the worker, steps were taken to change his name.

Otto remained at the Hayden Goodwill Inn from December, 1938, to May, 1944, on a school and work program, at first, and later on a work program.

In the Youth Guidance Clinic he was found to be of predominantly mesomorphic, strongly gynandroid physique,





with poor musculature throughout. IQ was placed at 110. Comment was made that the suicide attempts (another attempt occurred at Goodwill Inn with subsequent ten day observation at Boston Psychopathic Hospital) might be attention-getting devices in a "gynandroid and dramatic individual". It was explained in the constitution clinic that individuals in whom bisexuality is strong, are often found to be exhibitionists. Here question was raised as to whether the exhibitionism was associated with sexual impulse. It was the thought at this clinic that the boy did not have homosexual tendencies.

It was learned here that Otto had anxiety concerning possible tendencies in this direction. He also had fear that he did not possess adequate sexual endowment. It was explained in clinical interviews that the strong factor of gynandromorphy present did not necessarily indicate a homosexual tendency, and that a high degree of bisexuality is not in itself undesirable, but on the contrary, is often known to exist in gifted persons. On the other hand, where homosexuality is present in an individual, he is usually found to have a poorly integrated personality.

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return to school.

Otto left Goodwill Inn in 1944 to become cook at a summer hotel, having been helped to secure the job through this agency. A summary of progress at the Inn states that he successfully carried through an educational program; aided financially by that agency through student loans he passed a special course in printing at Wentworth Institute. The summary states that the agency offered special interest and encouragement, of a non-hospital nature, and guided the boy within his aptitudes.

The Goodwill Inn reports that at 23, Otto now holds a job as chief chef at a small hotel. During the war he held a responsible position as chef with a government mission in the Azores. He has money saved and hopes to achieve further schooling in a teachers' college.

This boy, who attempted suicide, was aided by two agencies to attain stability and self-dependence through vocational placements. Referred first to the Boston Psychopathic Hospital, the attention of a placing agency was directed to his need for a home environment where self-support could be started. It is noteworthy that the worker regarded Otto's plan to change his name as evidence of adjustment. Possibly the worker saw this as meaning to Otto a symbolic step taken to relate himself effectively to his environment. It appeared that the greatest need in

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this case was that of understanding of drives in relation to physical make-up. It is possible that interviews with the boy, which sought to acquaint him with homosexuality in relation to the bisexual factor, were helpful in alleviating psychological tension.

This case represents efficient and cooperative sharing of case work responsibility among social agencies, directed, first, toward referral from the hospital to an agency which could place the boy within a secure home setting; and, later, referral, when the boy had matured sufficiently, to the stimulation of a group placement.

#### 5. School Problem - Inattention and Daydreaming

Jerome was referred for placement to the Children's Friend Society by the Family Society on May 5, 1939. He was failing in mathematics, inattentive and nervous and was given to daydreaming in school. There were thought to be many tensions in the home from which the boy should be released.

Jerome had been known to the Family Society since age 9, as the fifth of the seven children in the Loomis family, with whom the Society had done extensive case work for eleven years. The father suffered from attacks of grand mal and at times could be heard shouting like an animal. Given to periodic bouts of drunkenness, he frequently drank up the week's wages and was responsible for the family being

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periodically on Public Welfare. The mother was spoken of by the agency worker as a bitter dominating woman, who resented the children's, and especially Jerome's, affection for the father.

During childhood Jerome was thought to be a nervous, sensitive child noticeable for listless daydreaming. At age 9 an encephalogram at the Children's Hospital was made for question of petit mal. This was ruled out. Psychiatric advice was also sought from the Judge Baker Guidance Center in regard to the daydreaming. Here it was thought that the boy rejected the mother but was overdependent on her. The Family Society felt that sufficient encouragement had not been given the boy to talk out his conflicts at the Judge Baker Guidance Center. Now at age 12, it was thought that he was afraid of his father, was too controlled by his mother, timid about making decisions of his own, and suffering from nervous tension which was reflected in school failure.

With the consent of his parents, a foster home was chosen, where it was hoped that an understanding foster father would inspire the boy to make decisions of his own and "encourage him to grow up".

The result of two placements made by the Children's Friend Society between July, 1939, and August, 1940, were successful. It was said that Jerome had become more manly,

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His greater independence carried over through the next two years. However, during 1941, Jerome began to truant, was drunk on many occasions and in November, left school. During the following spring he was picked up by the police, drunk in the street, and in Juvenile Court he was placed on suspended sentence.

Jerome was referred by the Family Society for psychiatric interviews at the Southard Clinic and, with the approval of his probation officer, to the Hayden Goodwill Inn on May 20, 1943, when he was 17. The understanding between the Family Society and the Goodwill Inn was that the boy needed a place to live until he found a job.

Clinically interviewed, he was found to be of tall endomorphic physique, with mesomorphy low. No conspicuous dysplasia but a high degree of gynandromorphy was found. General strength and coordination were considered poor. Physical examination revealed no significant pathology except muscular weakness and general flaccidity in all segments of the body. It was noted that IQ reports ranged from 50 to 105, clustering at Goodwill Inn around 105. It was thought in the clinic that the intermittent absent-mindedness, or schizoid tendency, might account for the low scores. Superficially the boy seemed to exhibit cerebretonia,

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but there was no great restraint nor hyperattentionality but rather a schizophrenic disassociation from reality and the immediate environment.

Although the psychologist thought the boy had a constitutional tendency toward flaccid ineffectuality, a dyscrastic energy endowment of some kind was thought to be present. Dyscrasia, associated with the temperament expression of the primary morphological components and usually known as a "reversal", is found in the majority of cases to be related to somatotonic motivation, in a normally viscerotonic temperament.<sup>2</sup>

In this case visceretonia was manifest in the deep sleep and dependence on the approval of somebody. Here, the ill directed somatotonia, or aggression, was expressed in periodic volleying of questions and talk, without revealing any sensitivity to desires or needs of the listener. The chief evidence of dyscrasia, however, lay in the craving for alcohol. In this case, the intermittent outbursts of energy were not capable of being sustained nor channelized in a boy who was highly gynandroid and of characteristic low energy. The psychologist stated that here, as in the case of many who are given to drink the boy sought alcohol as an agent which would narcotize the sporadic energy outbursts

<sup>2</sup> William H. Sheldon and S. S. Stevens, The Varieties of Temperament, p. 288.

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which he was not able to sustain and of which he was afraid.

It was stated in the Youth Guidance Clinic that the boy's conversation exhibited a remarkable mixture of Christian and Freudian terminology and that his principal motivation appeared to be that of eliciting approval and support for ideas uppermost in his consciousness.

The psychologist believed that the boy had need of the support of a disciplined environment. It was recommended that, following residence at Goodwill Inn during which behavior was to be observed, the boy should be encouraged to make the Army and, failing that, the Maritime Service. In June, 1944, Jerome's contact with Hayden Goodwill Inn was brought to a close, when he entered the Maritime Service, at age 18.

Throughout his past residence at the Inn, he was employed in maintenance and was thought at times to be a good leader. Psychiatric consultation was continued at the Southard Clinic where the diagnostic impression was that two boys were found in his make-up, one a normal adolescent, the other, a bewildered youth. The impression was that he was a seriously confused boy.

A summary on Hayden Goodwill Inn's service to Jerome states that the boy was given the support of a stable environment during a period of adolescent bewilderment.

A progress note on Jerome in the Goodwill Inn record

which he was not able to sustain and of which he was afraid. It was stated in the Youth Guidance Clinic that the boy's conversation exhibited a remarkable mixture of Christian and Freudian terminology and that his principal motivation appeared to be that of eliciting approval and support for ideas uppermost in his consciousness. The psychologist believed that the boy had need of the support of a disciplined environment. It was recommended that, following residence at Goodwill Inn during which behavior was to be observed, the boy should be encouraged to make the Army and, failing that, the Maritime Service. In June, 1944, Jerome's contact with Hayden Goodwill Inn was brought to a close, when he entered the Maritime Service at age 16. Throughout his past residence at the Inn, he was employed in maintenance and was thought at times to be a good leader. Psychiatric consultation was continued at the Southard Clinic where the diagnostic impression was that two boys were found in his make-up, one a normal adolescent, the other, a bewildered youth. The impression was that he was a seriously confused boy. A summary on Hayden Goodwill Inn's service to Jerome states that the boy was given the support of a stable environment during a period of adolescent bewilderment. A progress note on Jerome in the Goodwill Inn record



discloses that he has recently been discharged from the Maritime Service after two years service in all the principal war theaters. On February 15, 1946, he enlisted in the United States Army.

This is the case of a boy who was the cause of much concern to several agency workers because of inattention and daydreaming. One agency made an effort to determine the reason for his behavior through medical test and psychiatric interviews. Pathology was ruled out through an encephalogram. A foster home placement was found to be beneficial to the boy, causing him to be less dependent on his family, thus helping him "to grow up".

It does not appear that psychiatric interviewing helped to relieve this boy's confusion of mind.

Two major contributions of the Goodwill Inn toward the development of this boy are cited in the record; an opportunity to identify himself with mature boys who were striving to establish themselves, and to relate himself to the aims of understanding adults. Such association during a fluid adolescent period helped the boy to identify himself with adult goals.

The constitution clinic found evidence of a component producing aggression, which the boy constitutionally was incapable of handling effectively. It was thought the alcoholic episodes were causally related to this condition





in that the use of alcohol served to deaden the energy outbursts, which the boy feared, knowing that he could not sustain them at an operational level.

#### 6. Over-aggressive Behavior

Peter was referred by his school to the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study, during the last months of 1938, because of his peculiar behavior. He was a large, overdeveloped boy of 12 years and 10 months, put in a special class after having spent three years in grade one and having experienced other retardations along the way. In school he was always in trouble through belligerent behavior and was so uncoordinated in his movements that he was unable to play with other children, who called him "Buggy" because he was always scratching and picking at himself. He had talked of wanting to be killed and had been hit three times by automobiles. Referral to the agency came following a time when he had been found standing on the sill of an open window.

Investigation by the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study disclosed that Peter's father was often oblivious of the children's presence. At other times he would give way to disciplinary severity especially directed toward Peter. The mother was a large tense woman, who frequently grew very irritable toward the boy. There were two younger siblings who were making a normal adjustment at school.





It was observed by the agency worker that this boy's needs were centered about his physical and mental disabilities and the attitudes of his schoolmates and parents. An IQ gave the intelligence as nearly borderline, and there was a myopic condition and what appeared to be a speech defect. Through his talk of wanting to be killed, he was judged sensitive in regard to his situation. It was felt by the worker that the parents' harshly blaming attitude and the children's ridicule produced a sense of frustration and rejection. This was expressed in periods when he would try to hurt others by pinching and hitting.

Treatment by the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study covered a period of four years and ten months. In the main it was supportive treatment, aimed at giving the boy the feeling that he had a sympathetic friend, someone who understood even though it appeared that no one else did. Since it was felt that the boy was suffering primarily from a sense of rejection and of being unwanted, his need was considered to be the development of a sense of belonging to someone as a friend. Through this attachment as a support, it was hoped that he would gain a sense of adequacy and a feeling of independence.

To this end the worker made many home visits, took the boy on excursions and talked to him in an encouraging way about school. An attempt was made to give his parents





and teachers an understanding of his needs so that they would assume a less punishing attitude. Carpentry lessons were arranged as an aid toward better muscular coordination, and an effort to improve his speech defect through speech clinic attendance was made. Tutoring was given in the hope that school work would improve. Sex instruction was provided when it appeared that some of the aggressive behavior seemed to be related to worry about sex.

Yearly summaries noted improvement. School advance was made. Improvement in speech followed correction classes, and it was felt that Peter gave evidence of being able to relate himself to others through "shy signs of affection" shown the worker.

At the time of referral to another agency, this opinion concerning improvement had changed. In December, 1942, Peter was held by the Juvenile Court on a charge of having sodomy relations with two boys. Three days previous, one of the boys, after having been seen with Peter, disappeared; later he was found dead. During examination Peter told of having sex relations with this boy and with others. Though later found innocent of the death of the boy, Peter was found guilty of sex delinquency by the Juvenile Court and was sent to Lyman School.

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In handling this case work over to the correctional school, the agency felt that its efforts with this boy had



in the main been futile. Reviewing progress made, it was shown that, although something had been gained in the boy's ability to make a friend of the worker, on the whole he had developed no carry-over nor insight into his behavior difficulties. On the other hand, note was made of how "fond one can become of a child, who to all others seems a nuisance".

From the Lyman School Peter was sent for observation to Gardner State Hospital. A diagnosis of borderline IQ without psychosis was made. Following eight months at Lyman School, he was discharged with the statement that he needed "farm work, not regimentation". He was referred for cooperative case work and camp program at Hayden Village by the Probation Officer and the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study.

In Goodwill Inn Youth Guidance Clinic, the somatotype was found to be that of predominant mesomorphy, with a high degree of secondary strength in endomorphy. Some dysplasia was present and he was found to have scoliosis. The IQ was placed somewhere near borderline. The significant factor in this constitution was found to be that of a high degree of energy, complicated by very poor coordination. The diagnosis was that of borderline Constitutional Inferior, Physical and Mental.

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At camp his adjustment was poor. On two occasions he was found with a dead chicken in his hand. He confessed that he had squeezed it to death, to "see what would happen". Masturbatory activity was said to have accompanied these episodes. He was reported to have brandished knives threateningly while on kitchen duty. Several sex advances were made to boys. Following camp, he was arrested by the police for making advances to smaller boys.

As a preliminary to referring Peter to the Boston Psychopathic Hospital, a case conference between the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study, the Probation Office, the Hayden Goodwill Inn and the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health was held. The diagnosis of Constitutionally Inadequate Person with Sadistic Tendencies was given by the consulting psychiatrist of the Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study. Following a ten-day observation at the Boston Psychopathic Hospital, where a diagnosis of Psychopathic Personality was made, Peter was committed to the Westboro State Hospital as a protective measure against possible community damage along sex lines.

A summary made by the Hayden Goodwill Inn Youth Guidance Clinic on the boy's progress at Hayden Village stated that the boy had shown a primary need for external support of the third, or inhibiting component, cerebretonia. Overenergized, the boy was lacking in restraint and inner dis-





cipline. Since the intelligence was weak, he was not able to understand the types of restraint which had been laid on him and had only the capacity to comprehend discipline of a corporeal nature. Failing in this understanding, he had never learned what was acceptable behavior and was progressively impelled to seek from adults the answer to problems of right and wrong. This he did in the only way open to his level of intelligence - physical violence.

In referring to the association of masturbatory practices with the chicken killing, it was questioned whether the sadistic impulses had any relation to sexuality. It was stated that in this highly energized, badly coordinated boy with low intelligence, the expression of sexuality associated with the chicken killing might simply be attributed to a badly directed release of overwhelming energy.

Here a need was seen for the development of a sense of adequacy and independence, which in adolescence is the need to become independent of the family and emotionally self-sufficient. This need was blocked, in Peter's case, by inferior physical and mental endowment. Efforts were made by one agency to build up a sense of adequacy by friendly and practical support through corrective therapy. Some slight progress was made in this respect, but later, in the light of the sexual delinquency, the condition of the boy was considered essentially the same.





The constitution clinic decided that the primary need, in this case, was for restraint and reinforcement of a weak psychological, or inhibitory panel, by corporeal punishment, if necessary. It was observed that treatment of this nature should have started long before referral was made for agency help.

The constitution clinic interpreted the relation of the boy's sadistic impulses and sexuality in terms of an over powering surge of energy. It was stated in this clinic that the masturbatory practices resorted to at the time of the chicken killing were not associated with sadism in a primary sense, in other words, were not an expression of sadism, but were the expression of an irresistable surge of energy, a "letting off of steam" which was concomitant with the sense of power afforded by the killing of the chickens.

It would seem that what was essential for this boy was more adequate and earlier diagnosis of the boy's requisites in the light of his natural insufficiencies. In practice, several diagnoses were made. It is interesting to note that both agencies which worked extensively with the boy, the first agency and the constitution clinic, saw his need as that of security: the wish to be assured of something he could depend upon before he himself could become independent. Different methods were planned in the two agencies to achieve this sense of security, friendly support in one and firm





disciplinary action in the other.

### 7. Vocational Problem

Albert was referred to the Church Home Society in February, 1938, by the pastor of the church of which his family were members. The minister was bringing the boy to the agency's attention because the boy was having trouble with his father. The father was abusive of the boy, often striking him and constantly complaining that he was lazy and stupid. The father seemed mentally ill. The boy, aged 16, appeared to be principally in need of vocational guidance. The pastor thought that he should be encouraged to find a job as soon as possible, so that he might leave home. He was failing in the senior year at high school.

Albert's parents had met while both were working in a hospital. After marriage, the father had not wanted his wife to have children, and when Albert was on the way, had urged an abortion. The mother had refused but, when the boy was two years old, consented to close up the home at the father's request. Both parents went back to their positions in the hospital, and Albert went to live with his maternal grandmother.

When a second child was on the way, the mother insisted on reopening the home, and Albert returned to live with his parents, at age 12. He felt as if he did not really know his father and mother and greatly missed his grandmother.





There was one other sibling, a boy aged 5.

The agency found that the father had unpredictable moods. Becoming unaccountably enraged at some small happening, he would shout that he was going to throw them all out of the house. He was nearly always sullenly jealous and often accused his wife of infidelity. He seemed to have a special animosity toward Albert.

The agency found Albert, a small, dark complexioned boy, aged 17, to be an introspective lad, who did a great deal of worrying. He worried about not being so large and strong as he should be, a condition he believed caused by much childhood illness. This, he said, had prevented him from playing with children while growing up and had made him shy with young people. He worried about his father's jealous attacks on his mother. Although he agreed with his mother that his father was probably mentally ill, he was bitter over the father's constant fault-finding, which seemed to run along with the father's fits of jealousy directed to the mother. He said that he would like to have a job so that he would not have to live at home, but he did not know what he could do.

The agency found that, although the boy seemed to have no companions of his own age, he had very good rapport with adults.

The Church Home Society found that the problem





centered about the boy's sense of insecurity in the home, as related to the father's jealous nagging and the mother's handling of this jealousy. It was thought that she met these attacks unwisely, in that she defended Albert as the only person who cared for her, which increased the father's jealousy. The agency found that the boy seemed very unsure of himself; they laid this to a feeling of inferiority caused by the father's hostility.

It was recognized by the agency that the boy needed the security of an environment in which he could overcome his unsureness and sense of inferiority and that he needed to learn a trade, so that he could become self-supporting and leave home. On March 4, 1938, he was placed in a foster home.

During Albert's stay at the foster home, the father's behavior became worse, and he was placed in a mental hospital. In June, 1939, the father died, and Albert returned home. According to the agency, worry about home conditions and his father's death had so upset him that he did not graduate from high school.

The agency did not have much to report on the results of treatment, except to say that Albert had made a favorable adjustment in the foster home, where he had "been quiet, retiring and sensitive". On the other hand, he was still ill at ease with young people his age. Because they wished





to be better equipped to handle his feelings of inferiority and sensitivity, the Church Home Society referred Albert to the Judge Baker Guidance Center for diagnosis and recommendations as to treatment.

Here a physical examination was essentially negative, and the IQ was found to be slightly above average.

In clinical interviews Albert was seen to be of good ethical traits and standards. It was observed that although he withdrew from boys of his age, because he seemed afraid to compete with them, in his childhood he had wanted to be "boss of the gang".

The problem according to this agency, involved the unwholesome home environment, specifically as it concerned the father's jealous attacks on the boy and the mother's unwise handling of them. Nevertheless, it was found by this agency that the boy seemed to be exceptionally well adjusted. His main need was to live away from home, which had a bad influence on him. Since placement in a foster home had already been taken care of, the Judge Baker Guidance Center found the principal need had been met. Through vocational testing it was learned that the boy seemed to have considerable art ability and an interest in art. The agency recommended that art lessons be given, suggesting that this ability might be utilized as a future livelihood. It was thought that the boy was well worth doing for. The recommen-





dation was acted upon by the referring agency; through a scholarship Albert was able to attend Saturday morning classes for one winter at the Boston Museum School.

The Judge Baker Guidance Center saw no need of psychiatric treatment.

Albert made a second referral to the Church Home Society in February, 1940. He wanted advice about a job. He was perplexed as to whether he should get one at a distance or near home. Following his father's death, trouble had soon started between Albert and his mother, who had been disappointed that he did not graduate and ragged him for his failure. Living conditions were difficult financially, and Albert wanted to work and help his mother. He seemed uncertain as to how to get a job and what he wanted to do.

The agency saw the situation as centering: (1) about the boy's need to grow away from dependence on his mother, which was apparent in his depressed moods which followed their quarreling. It was sensed that the boy had guilt feelings about the quarreling. (2) It was observed that he needed contacts with his contemporaries, with whom he still seemed to feel ill at ease.

On March 5, 1940, Albert was referred to the Hayden Goodwill Inn; this agency understood that they were to undertake cooperative case work with the referring agency.

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Inn, the boy's physical findings were essentially negative, although he was thought to be "physiologically rather a weak young man". The IQ was placed around 105. He was found to be of rather slight physique, showing nearly even balance between the second, or mesomorphic component, and the third, or ectomorphic component, with the third slightly predominant. He was described as being dysplastic and as showing no gynandroid interference. Strength was poor but general bodily coordination was considered to be good.

It was stated in the clinic that the dysplasia, consisting of predominance of mesomorphy in one section, occurring within a physique predominantly ectomorphic, increased the complexities found in the total constitutional picture of this boy. The psychologist remarked that the problem this dysplasia presented might be likened to the problem of driving five horses at once, one of which is bigger than the others. This was productive of inconsistent aggressions or of incompleted drives.

The findings as to temperament were that the boy showed a rather excessive cerebretonia, complicated by an unassimilated or unblended somatotonia. It was found that the cerebretonia was manifested in the strained, hesitant social address and in interests identified with imaginative pursuits. The somatotonia was evidenced in harsh, aggressive drives, such as "wanting to be boss of the gang" as a

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The psychologist believed that the explanation of personality difficulties, evidenced by incompatibility of drives, was to be found in competing constitutional components and not in reactions to parent relationships. In the clinic the boy was said to be of poor heredity and poor environmental background. Described as that of a slight, asthenic

At the clinic it was thought that since this boy was endowed with special talent in art, but showed no particular strength in academic subjects, an adjustment might be made for him through placement in art work. The psychologist suggested that he be kept at the Inn on residence until he was sufficiently stabilized, through work experience, to live by himself. At of his success.

Albert remained at Goodwill Inn from March, 1940, until November, 1943. He held a job, secured through the Goodwill Inn at an art establishment specializing in stained glass design, for six months. Here, his ability was soon recognized and was encouraged through lessons from one of the staff members. These were given up in a few weeks when Albert, in an emotional outburst, stated that he could not be taught art but would have to teach himself. After he left this establishment, many jobs followed. In the fall of 1943, Albert was rejected by the draft as a psychoneurotic and took a defense job, leaving the Inn. Station. At

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A summary of the Goodwill Inn's services to this boy can best be given in connection with a record of events reflecting a change of attitude.

To the staff members, he seemed a bewildered boy in need of vocational adjustment. On the other hand, this need appeared secondary to his problem of personality orientation. This problem was described as that of a slight, ectomorphic boy trying to work out the persona of a man of strength. Growing accustomed to life at Goodwill Inn, he was attracted to the more aggressive activities. He would urge the big boys to take him on in boxing and would do well for a while because the big boys recognized his desperate seriousness and would check themselves from beating him up. Afterwards, he would boast of his success.

Having secured the first job, Albert grew friendly with several boys at the Inn who were imaginative and had interests similar to his. As friendship progressed, it was noted that he lost interest in proving himself as "Hercules". It was known that his friends offered him encouragement in the art field, and he seemed to be focusing his attention upon art as a goal.

During the first two years residence, the staff noted the more or less normal adolescent desire to achieve success at a bound. This wish found rationalization in the statement that "genius" such as his deserved subsidization. At

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this time, periods of depression occurred. In one of these the boy slashed his wrist. It was thought that these moods were not related to any specific event but were occasioned by a "cosmic frustration", a sense of life futility. On the other hand, he chose jobs which made the least demand upon his time, with the purpose of giving most of his attention to painting. The agency record states that at present he is living in a small basement room, supporting himself by part-time jobs. He is known to devote most of the day to painting.

This agency appeared to provide an anchorage during a period of adolescent bewilderment. The agency itself feels that it gave opportunities for testing out competing ambitions and afforded security while conclusions were reached concerning a goal.

In this case, referral for vocational guidance, two main problems were seen to be present: unwholesome family relationships which produced feelings of doubt and a sense of inferiority; and a personality maladjustment arising from confused motivations.

The first agency saw the main problem as existing within emotional dependence. Steps were taken to break this dependence by withdrawal of the boy from his family and placement in a foster home and then, in a group placement, where companionship among contemporaries could be had.





Psychiatric treatment was sought for the sensitivity and sense of inferiority found by the first agency, but the opinion of the psychiatric clinic was that the boy, despite unwholesome home conditions, had the stamina to withstand neurotic family relationships and seemed to be well adjusted.

When the boy was referred to the constitution clinic, evidence was found of conflict arising from the incompatibility within the constitutional structure productive of inharmonious motivations. When the boy recognized which was for him the important motivating force, the conflict was lessened in considerable degree.

It is interesting to note that the constitution clinic, basing its findings on constitutional factors, appeared to find evidences of maladjustment which were not perceived by the psychiatric clinic. Knowledge of these factors guided the constitution clinic in assisting the boy to adjust vocationally within the range of his natural endowment.

#### 8. Truancy

Lucien was sent to the Judge Baker Guidance Center by the Juvenile Court in May, 1940, for diagnosis and recommendations as to plans for dealing with him. He had been sent to court for excessive truanting. In referring to this boy, aged 15, the court psychiatrist stated that in his opinion the youth was one of the worst cases of adoles-





cent confusion he had encountered. He thought that symptoms of dementia praecox were present.

Lucien's mother had been in a state mental hospital since his birth. He had never seen her. The father, a barber, a hard-working man, appeared to have sacrificed much for his children. He wanted them to have many advantages. There were two older brothers, both of them employed.

Much quarreling went on in the home between Lucien and his brothers. The father and Lucien attempted to run the house, and the brothers found fault with the way it was kept. The house was always in extreme disorder. Lucien was said to admire his father but often was angry with him for failing to help him keep the home in order.

A psychometric given at the Judge Baker Guidance Center placed the IQ at high average level. Interviewing the boy clinically, the agency found that he had excellent assets, among which was good insight into his difficulties. It was known that he had thoroughly good ambitions and moods that were normal. He was thought by this agency to be a boy who made favorable social contacts and was polite, neat and orderly. No evidence of psychopathic tendencies was found.

Reviewing the situation, the agency found that Lucien's difficulties centered about the confusion in the home and his feeling of responsibility for it. Consequently, he had





taken on more duties than he could handle and had stayed away from school. It was thought that the boy had been too much on his own and showed the effects of a confused adolescence, resulting largely from his mother's absence and the conflict between the siblings and the father. The recommendations of the Judge Baker Guidance Center were that Lucien, now in the ninth grade, should be placed in a stable foster home environment where he might finish school.

In October, 1940, Lucien was referred by the Juvenile Court to the Children's Aid Association for placement.

The Children's Aid Association saw the boy as unusually pleasant to meet and particularly friendly and tractable toward the worker. In a vocational test he showed exceptionally good coordination with concrete material. The agency agreed to place him, stating that the plan of treatment was to place such a highly intelligent boy, from a home broken through the mother's insanity, in an environment where he might gain stability and loyalties which would overcome tendencies toward a possible mental breakdown.

Three placements were made, the first two covering a year and one half, the first being a semi-group setting, where Lucien earned part board, and the second a caddy camp, in which his entire expense was earned. Following placements, contact was maintained until it was found necessary by the Children's Aid Association to refer the boy to the Massachu-





setts General Hospital for psychiatric treatment.

A summary of the placement period and of the three months following showed that the boy appeared continually confused and unstable. He had been asked to leave the camp, after several irresponsible acts, one of which was to drive players' cars around the parking lot. In the last placement, where he was expected to help care for convalescents, he was undependable. Returned to his home following one month's placement at this last foster home, he refused to go back to school. He appeared depressed and irritable. There were several periods of intoxication.

During this period the worker considered his role to be that of the sympathetic and loyal friend, one with whom the boy could talk over conflicting desires and to whom, if necessary, the boy could "feel free to show his worst side". Constructive interests were stimulated by the worker in this role. Since Lucien showed a liking for music, lessons were arranged with an agency specializing in therapy of music for those suffering from personality disorders.

It was stated that these efforts to relate the boy to contacts on a friendship basis and to constructive interests were largely futile. After several months, the worker failed to gain the confidence of the boy, who was described as showing a consistent pattern of self-centeredness. Referral to the Massachusetts General Hospital Psychiatric

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A summary of the placement period and of the three months following showed that the boy appeared continually confused and unstable. He had been asked to leave the camp after several irresponsible acts, one of which was to drive players' cars around the parking lot. In the last placement, where he was expected to help cars for convalescents, he was undependable. Returned to his home following one month's placement at this last foster home, he refused to go back to school. He appeared depressed and irritable. There were several periods of intoxication.

During this period the worker considered his role to be that of the sympathetic and loyal friend, one with whom the boy could talk over conflicting desires and to whom, if necessary, the boy could "tell lies to show his worst side". Constructive interests were stimulated by the worker in this role. Since Luther showed a liking for music, lessons were arranged with an agency specializing in therapy of music for those suffering from personality disorders.

It was stated that these efforts to relate the boy to contacts on a friendship basis and to constructive interests were largely futile. After several months, the worker failed to gain the confidence of the boy, who was described as showing a constant pattern of self-centeredness. Referral to the Massachusetts General Hospital Psychiatric



Clinic, on February 4, 1942, followed an episode in which Lucien was found drunk, with the piano locked, the key thrown away, and his music torn up. He said he thought he was going crazy.

Lucien, in the Psychiatric Ward of the Massachusetts General Hospital, was found to be affable and cheerful, outgoing and friendly, in a calculating sort of way. He proved to have superior intellectual capacity but no insight.

While under observation at the hospital, he was found to have homosexual proclivities. He engaged in frank sex relationships with a boy, a patient on the ward.

The Massachusetts General Hospital's diagnosis was that of Psychopathic Personality, with question of neurological complications. It was stated by the psychiatrist that Lucien realized the inevitability of having to conform to agency planning if he wished to continue getting his living through them. It was questioned how truly repentant he might be. Recommendations by the psychiatrist were that one more opportunity at placement should be made, provided that psychiatric treatment at the Judge Baker Guidance Center accompanied the placement.

Pending decision on the best type of placement to be made, in view of the boy's needs, a case conference was held between the psychiatrist at the Massachusetts General Hospital, the psychiatrist at the Judge Baker Guidance

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Center, and the worker from the Children's Aid Association. The clinical opinion of the Judge Baker Guidance Center was that impressions which were gained at their first conference were not correct. This was due to the fact that important information was lacking at that time. The boy had exhibited serious personality disorders when small; irresponsibility, lying, setting fires, stealing. Also certain traumatic situations were significant: a psychotic mother, who personally gave the boy no maternal love and care, and placements away from home while his brothers remained at home, quite likely causing him to feel unfair discrimination.

The psychiatrist at the Judge Baker Guidance Center stated that Lucien seemed to be a seriously disturbed boy. Among possible diagnoses, it was said that the question of post-encephalitis should be considered. It was recommended that Lucien be referred to the Hayden Goodwill Inn.

Lucien went to live at the Goodwill Inn on March 7, 1942. It was understood that he was referred so that he might have a group setting and be under observation of the staff. The Children's Aid and the Goodwill Inn were to undertake joint case work and psychiatric therapy would continue at the Judge Baker Guidance Center.

In the Youth Guidance Clinic, Lucien was found to be well above average in general endowment. The psychometric was placed at 115. His somatotype showed him to be a well-





developed mesomorph, with a high degree of secondary gynandromorphy. The reference to secondary gynandromorphy meant that in certain areas of temperament the total personality of this boy showed elements of more than average bisexuality. Of significance in this case was the psychologist's statement that high secondary gynandromorphy without high primary gynandromorphy is often associated with homosexuality.

It was found in the Clinic that the boy presented a picture of temperamental overloading, which seemed to be on a hereditary basis, since it was learned that the mother presented much the same picture as to personality. The psychologist stated that the boy made good extravert contacts but showed no initial judgment in making them.

It was the impression of the Youth Guidance Clinic that the problem of homosexuality was a secondary matter. It was thought here that the boy might well be a primary homosexual, but it would seem that the difficulty of homosexuality might better be put on a secondary basis. The clinic impression was that there was a lack of basic integration among the personality levels. The psychologist stated that the boy's behavior consistently "cried out for discipline".

Lucien remained at Hayden Goodwill Inn Until June 1, 1942, when he was committed to Lyman School following conviction in the Juvenile Court for homosexual advances to a

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Summarizing case work service to this boy, the Goodwill Inn stated that workers were not able "to reach the boy" with a personal relationship. Many case work interviews were held, in which an attempt was made to establish rapport so that understanding of the boy's motives might aid in making constructive plans. Beginning the interview in an apparently penitent attitude for having failed at carrying out a maintenance job, the boy would finish the interview by telling the workers what he wanted of them. Efforts to interest him in an educational plan failed; he appeared indifferent to the disciplines required by the Goodwill Inn as an agency. It was felt by the Inn staff that the boy used the agency as a base from which he might enjoy the distractions within the community.

This case, referred originally for truancy, was found, as observation progressed, to be that of Psychopathic Personality. Since the more normal treatment policy of job placement was found to be unsuited, the question of neurological complications were twice raised, in connection with Psychopathic Personality. Lucien was referred for psychiatric aid to the Massachusetts General Hospital. It was questioned by this agency how effective the treatment had been. An agency conference among all the agencies which had observed the boy was held to decide upon the best plan

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for further treatment. The group placement, made as a result, does not seem to have benefitted the boy. It is possible that the indifference to opinion and unresponsiveness to treatment here shown is indicative of a type of case not often amenable to agency treatment.<sup>3</sup>

#### 9. Runaway

Lawrence was referred, On September 28, 1939, to the Catholic Charitable Bureau, at age 14, by the Boston Psychopathic Hospital, where he had been under observation for ten days. He had been sent to the hospital by the Juvenile Court, having been convicted of stubborn child complaint following numerous episodes of running away from Angel Guardian Home, where he had been placed by his mother. The Boston Psychopathic Hospital had made the diagnosis of Primary Behavior Disorder. This agency felt that the boy was reacting to a feeling of rejection by his mother; that he needed a home made for him by her and, failing to have that, should be placed in a stable foster home.

Investigation of the home by the Catholic Charitable Bureau showed that the mother was divorced from the father, after four months of marriage, following the father's request that she end her pregnancy by an abortion. The mother made \$20 a week, lived with an unmarried sister, had

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never felt able to maintain a home and had refused to take Dependent Children's Aid for the purpose. She had placed the boy, since infancy, in foster homes and lately, in group homes. In the last year, the boy had run away from the Angel Guardian four times. After the last running away, the mother had taken the boy to the Juvenile Court on a stubborn child complaint.

This agency found that the mother was not understanding of the boy's needs. It was felt that the boy, who appeared to be sullen and negativistic, was demanding attention of the mother through running away.

Since it was thought that the boy needed the stability of a home and that the mother had no awareness of the boy's wants, placement was made in a foster home From October, 1939, through December, 1940, when the boy was referred to Goodwill Inn for group placement.

Although the boy had adjusted poorly in the foster home, was surly and believed that nobody wanted to help him, the Catholic Charitable Bureau thought that some improvement had been made in the boy's attitude, particularly toward his mother, for whom he no longer seemed to hold such a negativistic feeling. Referred to the Boys' Club, Lawrence had adjusted well in group activities. Interpretation of the home situation to the school resulted in understanding of motivation behind periodic aggressive

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behavior. Finishing the eighth grade, Lawrence had entered Trade School.

The Goodwill Inn understood that Lawrence was referred on an experimental basis, that he had not adjusted well within a foster home, and it was now thought advisable to try him on cooperative case work with the Catholic Charitable Bureau, within a group placement where considerable responsibility is allowed the individual.

Throughout the boy's residence at Goodwill Inn, his adjustment was considered to be very poor. Following a six months period of residence in which he was considered to be resentful, uncooperative and stubborn, the boy, after a case conference among the Catholic Charitable Bureau, the Goodwill Inn and the probation officer, was committed to the Lyman School.

In the Youth Guidance Clinic, Lawrence was found to be of ectomorphic physique, with a high latent mesomorphy and a fairly high degree of endomorphy. There was marked ectomorphic increment in the forearms. IQ was placed at 110.

It was thought that the boy presented an almost hypomanic picture, in that his conversation was rapid, disorganized, and almost showed flight of ideas, although it was observed that he was egocentric and lacked the easy social address of the truly manic personality. Great ten-

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sion and most of the cardinal signs of cerebretonia were markedly present, but it was noticed that the boy moved, talked, and generally behaved in a manner superficially simulating somatorosis. In constitutional psychology, the suffix "osis" is used to designate the exaggerated manifestation of a temperamental component.<sup>4</sup> The boy appeared to possess much more energy than his physical constitution seemed to carry, and it was questioned whether the energy came from superior anabolism or catabolism.

Apparently the boy needed some regular channel for somatotonic expression or an influence which would raise the first component motivationally. It was commented that the mother was a large, energetic woman of much aggression and that the boy might well be reacting to incompatibility between himself and his mother.

A subsequent report on this boy from the Goodwill Inn worker is of interest. Lawrence enlisted in the army in 1942, at age 17, and served overseas for over a year.

This boy, referred as a runaway for agency service, was considered to be reacting to a feeling of rejection by the attention getting device of running away. Attempts to meet his needs were made through referral by the hospital to a child placing agency, so that he might experience the

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William H. Sheldon and S. S. Stevens, Varieties of Temperament, p. 23.





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The constitution clinic recognized incompatibility between the mother and boy who possessed different constitutional patterns. The mother, interviewed clinically, was found to be predominantly mesomorphic, with a high degree of somatonia expressed by the will to dominate. It was clinically stated that the friction existing between mother and son could be adequately interpreted in terms of contrasting temperamental motivation. It appears that the constitutional method here brings insight to bear upon the familiar problem of the parent-child relationship, pointing, where conflict exists, to incompatible constitutions as one potential source of disharmony.

#### 10. Stealing

Herbert was well known to the Family Society from December, 1937, to August, 1940. Herbert's grandmother had asked for help in working out a plan of where to live, following her divorce from the grandfather. In 1938, Herbert, age 17, came to the agency's attention from a case work standpoint when he was placed on probation for stealing silver from the church plate.

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Herbert was illegitimate, the son of the grandmother's daughter, who had left home shortly after becoming pregnant. Herbert remembered her only slightly; grew up thinking there was something bad in asking about his mother, because the grandmother would always change the subject. Several months after being placed on probation, he experienced an episode of vomiting blood. Medical examination proved negative. Interviews with Herbert disclosed that he was worried about his parentage. The agency thought that the stealing incident had occurred in connection with his anxiety over the circumstances of his parentage. He also felt restricted in activity while living with the grandmother; wanted to leave high school, where he was in the junior year, and take a job. He was failing in his courses.

On January 22, 1939, the Goodwill Inn accepted Herbert on a school work program. A summary of the Family Society's service to the boy up to that time stated that help had been given him along two lines. First, he was afforded an opportunity to talk over his worries concerning his illegitimate parentage and the agency thought that his attitude about this became less anxious. Second, arrangements were made for Herbert to live nearer the school than in the suburb to which his grandmother had moved. The worker felt that the boy who, at age 18, appeared timid and retiring, had matured sufficiently for a group placement. The

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referral to Goodwill Inn was made with the understanding that the boy was to maintain himself on a work program while finishing high school.

Medical examination in the Youth Guidance Clinic was essentially negative; the IQ placed at 88. Constitutionally the boy was found to be predominantly ectomorphic, with a rather high gynandroid element. He had poor muscle tone and low strength. The somatotype revealed no striking dysplasia. The impression was that he was of very weak constitutional endowment, although he was thought to be an essentially normal boy. It was noted that he had been trying to hold up his end with some of the rougher boys in the house and that such competition put him in a false position, since his constitutional picture was that of a somewhat soft, feminoid leptic.

The recommendations were that he should be protected from any extravert ambition such as commercial work, selling, aviation and the like. Despite the relatively weak mental endowment, the psychologist thought the boy should be given every encouragement to finish high school, since his chances of being self-supporting would be strengthened thereby.

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This boy, referred for stealing, was found to be worried by his illegitimate parentage. Case work of a supportive nature was given through providing the boy with an opportunity to talk out his problem. Judgment was used in placing the boy within a group setting at a time when he was sufficiently matured for this experience. In both agencies concerned, vocational needs were adequately cared for.

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Analysis of the case studies brings into focus several factors worthy of consideration. First among these is the fact that the boys' problems, with one or two exceptions, may all be regarded as being related to the general problem which adolescence poses - that of growing up. As a mature organism, the individual is capable of sustaining himself





## CHAPTER IV

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In this study an examination was made of agency case work service to maladjusted boys. The boys selected for study were chosen from a series of 200 referred to Goodwill Inn for personality disorders, constituting a seven-year follow-up study at that agency. The writer based her examination upon an analysis of the records of ten boys, all of whom had experienced extensive case work service, and who were, in all, representative of a variety of severe behavior problems. The study was made for the purpose of ascertaining: (1) what community resources were called upon to deal with the problems presented; (2) what was effected by the agencies through application of different methods of case work in dealing with the problems presented; (3) the approximate expenditure made by the agencies for each boy; (4) what added insight was brought to bear upon the individual boy through the method of constitutional psychology as employed at the Youth Guidance Clinic of the Hayden Goodwill Inn.

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and is able to produce his kind, but this condition is not won without a struggle. Constituting the dynamics of the growing up process, the problems each adolescent must face are: the necessity of breaking away from emotional dependence upon the family, the need to become self-supporting; the development of a heterosexual point of view; and lastly, the problem of achieving a perspective upon himself, which is best described as the forming of a purpose or goal in life. Basic in character among all the problems which adolescence brings, Hollingworth cites these as the principal tests which determine whether or not an individual becomes a mature man or woman.<sup>1</sup>

For one reason and another, some youth encounter more difficulty than others throughout this period. Arising sometimes within themselves, sometimes within the environment, but usually as a condition of these two factors, obstacles, characterized as neuroses, delinquency, and behavior problems of all sorts, threaten the achievement of maturity. The ten boys studied here represent cases in which difficulties within the environment reacted sufficiently upon the personality to produce disorders requiring help beyond family capacity to give. Where the agencies directed their efforts to meeting the boys' basic wants - that of

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achieving emotional and economic independence; of achieving heterosexuality; and of developing an integrated life purpose, they appeared in five cases to be successful in resolving the personality conflicts exhibited by the boys.

Social agency intervention was largely successful in meeting the needs presented by Kenneth, referred for masturbatory practices; Otto, the boy attempting suicide; Jerome, referred for inattention and day dreaming; Albert, who presented a vocational problem; and Herbert, referred for stealing.

In the case of three boys, Kenneth, Otto and Herbert, community resources represented by vocational schools were utilized by the agencies to help the boys become self-supporting through acquirement of a trade. Kenneth carried through one year only of such a program, although the agency financially responsible would have supported him further. Otto and Herbert successfully finished the educational course, while Herbert obtained a position in the field in which he had been trained, that of cooking. Otto, Albert and Herbert were directed to jobs in vocational fields to which they appeared permanently suited, that of cooking, art, and again, cooking.

Three boys in the successful group were referred through agencies to psychiatric clinics: Otto, because of his suicidal tendencies and moods of withdrawal; Kenneth





because of masturbatory practices; and Jerome because of emotional immaturity. The records of the agencies which had so referred these boys do not indicate that psychiatric interviewing was helpful in solving the problems of the boys.

Foster home placement was tried for three boys in the success group, Kenneth, Otto and Albert, and group placement for all five. Group placement succeeded with the five, while in foster home care Otto and Albert made a good adjustment. The writer believes that for Kenneth who had shown effects of living too much alone, and who appeared to need the stimulation of contemporaries, this placement was not altogether sound. When the boy was given the opportunity of associating with mature boys, he developed self dependence.

Within the larger, basic needs posed by the demands of developing maturity, all five of these boys were aided through skillful case work toward the development of emotional independence. This was achieved for Kenneth through placement at Goodwill Inn where contact with contemporaries developed within him a sense of security, something he had never experienced through the periods of intermittent dependence upon his mother and numerous foster home changes. For Otto, Jerome and Albert, self dependence was fostered through the wise choice of foster homes, followed by timely group placement when such placement could psychologically be most helpful in aiding the boys to become emotionally





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All five of the boys were helped by the social agencies to become self-supporting through either vocational training or job placement, or both. Two boys, Kenneth and Otto, were supported through periods in which they were having difficulty in attaining a heterosexual point of view. With Kenneth this was carried out through the ordinary activities of group living, which afforded the stimulus of interests natural to his age, while with Otto, clinical interviews were utilized to give him an understanding of his drives in relation to a constitution which was more gynandroid than average. *facilitating factor against adjustment.*

Five boys, Vincent, referred because of his delinquent family; Fenton, the homeless transient; Peter, referred for over-aggressive behavior; Lucien, the truant; and Lawrence, the runaway, failed in the main, to respond to efforts of social agencies which attempted to meet these boys' problems.

*work* For two boys, Vincent and Peter, skillful case work which attacked the problems of maladjustment from many angles was carried on for several successive years. For Vincent this consisted of such practical therapies as the community offered; a remedial reading course at Boston University Psychological-Educational Clinic; a farm placement to develop interests as a counterbalance to an unwholesome environment; a job placement; as well as supportive case





work, and finally placement within a group setting to the end that a sense of responsibility to others might be developed. With the exception of some slight improvement in reading and a recorded elevation of the IQ as a result of the remedial reading course, such intensive case work designed to help the boy within many areas, was declared by the agency chiefly concerned with this boy, to be largely negative in results. Only within the disciplined environment of correctional school did the boy appear to get on with any measure of adequacy. It was never satisfactorily established, however, that neurological damage of some sort did not operate as militating factor against adjustment.

With Peter, community resources, such as carpentry lessons, tutoring and speech correction classes were utilized in attempts to help the boy achieve self confidence and integration. The agencies' records state that the results of these efforts were largely negative. Supportive case work designed to help the boy attain a feeling of adequacy was also declared to be for the most part futile. Camp and group placements failed to accomplish results which could be interpreted as achievement of maturity for this boy. On the other hand, after several years' treatment the boy was diagnosed as constitutionally inferior by two agencies, and as a psychopathic personality by another. It is possible that this boy presents a condition for which at present

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no adequate social agency treatment is available.

The three other boys within the group not responding well to agency treatment, Lucien, Fenton and Lawrence, were given foster home and group placement. Of the three, Fenton, the homeless transient boy, made a fair adjustment within a wage foster home, although no marked progress was shown in the development of assurance or self dependence. Several months of group placement failed to develop in him a sense of responsibility or adequacy. For Lucien, the boy referred for truancy, and Lawrence, the runaway, both foster home and group placements failed. Lucien did not relate himself to any goal, nor did he develop responsibility. For this boy, a satisfactory heterosexual adjustment did not develop. It is possible that Lawrence's failure to adjust in both foster home and group settings was due to lack of an inner sense of security, and that he had been too seriously disturbed through early and constant placements outside of the home to permit case work treatment being efficaciously carried through.

Vigorous efforts were made by all the agencies interested to bring community resources to bear on the needs which adolescence brought to crucial focus in the cases of Lucien, Fenton and Lawrence. For Lawrence, referral to a boys' club appeared to work well in that he adjusted favorably to the program offered. In the case of Lucien, music





therapy which was tried with the hope of fostering emotional stability was not beneficial. Neither Lucien nor Fenton continued for any time in the numerous jobs which the agencies helped to secure for them. It is possible that in the case of these two boys, one of whom was considered to be constitutionally inferior, and the other a psychopathic personality, the agencies were again dealing with conditions not ordinarily susceptible to present methods of treatment.

The approximate sums spent by the agencies for the boys under their care are given in Table I, pages 90 and 91. Since most of the agencies found it impossible to compute the sums expended for each boy in terms of overhead and direct outlay, the sums for direct outlay spent by the several agencies for boys under their care only are given.

The sums spent for board in foster homes by the Children's Aid Association are for nine months board for Fenton, nine months for Kenneth, nineteen months for Lucien, and eight months board for Otto. The sum spent by the Children's Friend Society for foster home board for Jerome is for ten months, while that spent by the Church Home Society for Albert is for fourteen months board. The expenditure made by the Family Society for board for Herbert is for six months, while that for Jerome by the Family Society for board supplemented the sum spent for board for Jerome made by the Children's Friend Society. The sum spent by the











TABLE I.  
(continued)

Boy	Agency	Board	Cloth- ing	Allow- ance	Misc.	Psych. Counsel	Total
Lawrence	H.C.I.	\$87.		\$2.			\$89.
Lucien	C.A.A.	\$166.64	\$95.58	\$19.40	\$34.75		\$316.37
	H.G.I.						6.00
	J.B.G.C.					\$46.	46.00
							<del>\$368.37</del>
Otto	C.A.A.	\$22.29	\$141.88		\$12.05		\$176.22
	H.G.I.	1650.	20.	\$143.			1993.00
							<del>\$2169.22</del>
Peter	C.S.Y.S.	\$48.					\$48.00
	H.G.I.	277.	\$20.	\$43.10			340.10
							<del>\$388.10</del>
Vincent	M.B.P.	\$44.55					\$44.55

a Source: Figures obtained from the agencies' bookkeeping offices.

b Sums spent by the Catholic Charitable Bureau were not available.





Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study for board for Peter, supplemented that paid by the Hayden Goodwill Inn. The Traveler's Aid Society paid for six months board for Fenton at the Hayden Goodwill Inn. The monies spent by the Judge Baker Guidance Center comprise fees to the psychiatrist, psychologist and social worker, computed on an hourly basis. The board money paid by the Goodwill Inn for boys under their care includes three years and eight months board for Albert, two years and one month's board for Herbert, thirteen months for Jerome, two years for Kenneth, six months for Lawrence, four years for Otto, and for Peter four months at camp. The expenditure made by the Massachusetts Boys' Parole refers to payment made for one month's board at Goodwill Inn for Vincent.

The constitutional method brought significant insight to bear upon the problems presented by four of the boys for whom agency treatment was successful; namely, Otto, Jerome, Albert and Herbert. The findings of the constitution clinic for Otto were that this boy had a strongly gynandroid physique, and that the suicide attempts might be interpreted as attention getting devices, since individuals in whom bisexuality is strong are often found to be exhibitionists. The constitutional psychologist believed that the levels of this boy's personality were sufficiently integrated so that there was no danger of homo-





sexuality. On the other hand, the exhibitionism in terms of suicide attempts was interpreted as having a sexual basis. A frank facing by the psychologist and the boy of the gynandroid element resulted in the understanding, on the part of the boy, that a high degree of bisexuality may be a desirable factor, not necessarily conducive of homosexuality which usually occurs only where there is insufficient integration of the personality levels. Here it appears that the constitutional method was useful in pointing to basic factors of an individual's total personality.

Jerome's sporadic craving for alcohol was interpreted by the constitutional psychologist as being related to intermittent energy drives of which he was afraid because he was unable to properly channelize them. These outbursts of energy were described as being the expression of a dyscrastic element - in this case, that of a mesomorphic or energy expressive component in a physique predominantly weak or endomorphic. Through the constitutional method, an explanation of the need for alcohol was given in terms of the individual's total personality pattern. It does not follow that such interpretation bears with it indication of appropriate therapy except for the fact that a frank facing of the situation may of itself bring a degree of assurance.





The constitution clinic brought light to bear on the personality of Albert, the boy with the vocational problem, pointing out the presence of dysplasia within his morphology which was correlated with a temperamental expression of incompatible drives. Knowledge of such a conflict seems to be best revealed through constitutional methods in which knowledge of the somatotype is related to consideration of temperamental expression.

Again, in the case of Herbert, referred for stealing, the constitution clinic brought out significant findings through the use of the somatotype and clinical interviews based on the constitutional method. This clinic found the boy to be a "soft, feminoid leptic", and on the basis of these findings recommended that he should be protected from any extravert ambition, and should be encouraged to find somewhat feminine employment, such as cooking. Here it would seem that the constitutional method has use in pointing out the individual's basic weaknesses and strengths in terms of his constitution.

This clinic found that in the case of Vincent, the boy with the delinquent family, temperament drives were related to a centrotonic physique. These drives were described as being the expression of a wish to live mainly by exploitation. The constitutional psychologist stated that the total personality of this boy gave evidence of





having needed discipline through the formative years.

Again, in the case of Peter, referred for aggressive behavior, the psychologist found there was need of restraint and reinforcement of the inhibitory panel. An interpretation of sadism in relation to sexuality was given from the constitutional point of view. This point of view put the emphasis where sexuality was concerned on to energy, and not on to sadism. The findings were that the clue to this boy's behavior lay in undisciplined, overwhelming energy.

The constitution clinic found that the need of Fenton, the homeless transient boy, was predominantly that of institutionalization. It found also that there was marked ectomorphic dysplasia in the head and thoracic regions of this boy's physique, a condition sometimes found to be associated with schizophrenia. Thus the somatotype and other techniques of the constitutional method were utilized to bring to light the possibility of potential pathology in this case.

The findings revealed through the constitutional method concerning Lucien, are significant in that they point to the association of homosexuality with secondary gynandromorphy, which this boy exhibited. The clinic found the boy to be temperamentally overendowed, without the stability to sustain the overendowment of physical





drive, and more than average bisexuality. The findings were also that he had need of firm discipline, something he had never experienced.

One consideration deriving from this study has to do with a question which is posed by the lack of inherent capacity to adjust, as shown by the boys diagnosed as constitutional inferiors. They and many others like them are not feeble-minded, nor are they psychotic. Not being such, they are not eligible for institution care. (The boy referred to a state hospital was referred as being a potential community threat in regard to sadistic practices, but was not considered as psychotic.) On the other hand, the majority of such boys are not able to support themselves, nor to adjust adequately within the community at any acceptable level. It would seem that institutional facilities suited to their needs should be provided for, or failing that, special provisions should be made to accept them within the institutions now available.

A second item which appears to develop from this study is the desirability of a sharpened focus upon the individual and his needs, in order that more adequate diagnosis and provision might be made for the welfare of those who are in need of help. In the cases of several of the boys, a number of clinical diagnoses were made, some of them conflicting ones. In other cases, treatment

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carried on for years was later changed in direction or regarded as negative in the light of diagnoses finally made. However, the matter for diagnoses is a clinical one and here the writer is obviously not equipped to draw conclusions. Within the area of case work procedure, however, she does feel able to point to some considerations. It would seem from analysis of these cases, that a more basic and at the same time more pointed focus upon the individual, one which would take into consideration his heredity, his morphological make-up, and his constitutional drives, in addition to consideration of the parental-child relationships, would greatly aid in providing means for the clearer diagnosis and the treatment of cases presented for case work service.

Among the insights which knowledge of the basic elements of constitutional psychology brings to bear on the individual, is an understanding of the problems which gynandromorphy poses. Again, the interpretation in constitutional terms, of the craving for alcohol, seems to point to the need of consideration of constitutional strengths and weaknesses in the effective treatment of alcoholism. It appears certain that knowledge of what motivation means in terms of the constitutional picture, can become an effective agent in implementing vocational guidance. On the other hand, earlier knowledge of the constitutional





needs of clients may effect a saving of time and energy and at the same time result in more effective handling of cases. This was indicated in the record of treatment of at least four cases; namely, the two boys considered to be constitutional inferiors, the boy with the homosexual proclivities, and the boy from the delinquent family.

It does not appear that consideration of constitutional factors calls for a radical departure, for the worker, from methods already in use, or for the development of extraordinary skills. What is needed for the worker who would add the constitutional method to case work techniques commonly in practice, is the recognition of the importance of hereditary factors, and of the relative fixity of the fundamental constitutional drives. The writer believes that recognition of these factors would aid the worker in making early and just estimates of the individual client's needs, to the end that more effective planning for these needs may be accomplished.

The interaction of the chromosomes produces the embryo which evolves through the development of the endoderm, mesoderm and ectoderm. It is known that prenatal care and the chemistry of the mother's blood stream may affect the development of the embryo, but to what extent has not yet been determined.

From the three embryological layers, the individual





## APPENDIX

## LEVELS OF PERSONALITY FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF

## CONSTITUTIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

The order of personality levels can be conceived of as a conical figure with the apex inverted. Within this cone, "the cognitive, affective, conative, physiological and morphological aspects of the individual" are related to each other within levels, which, as they rise from the fixed to the more labile aspects of the individual broaden in the degree to which they can be affected as they rise.

Within the first and deepest level lie the forces of heredity, constituting that level of personality which comes into being at the moment of conception. Subject only to the operations of personality inherent within the ovum and the fertilizing sperm, and transmitted through the chromosomes, this level of individuation, according to constitutional psychologists, constitutes the most cogent force within the personality.

The interaction of the chromosomes produce the embryo which evolves through the development of the endoderm, mesoderm and ectoderm. It is known that prenatal care and the chemistry of the mother's blood stream may affect the development of the embryo, but to what extent has not yet been determined.

From the three embryological layers, the individual





derives physical configuration, that which is known in constitutional psychology as the somatotype.<sup>1</sup>

Although the somatotype may be grossly distorted by prenatal influences, endocrine and nutritional imbalances, and the like, it never varies actually in the component pattern which came with the heredity at conception.<sup>2</sup>

Following birth the morphology of the individual depends on the relative proportions of the embryological pattern. The component endomorph<sup>3</sup> is derived from the endodermal layer, and contains the viscera, which are associated with the assimilative, excretory, circulatory and reproductive functions of the body.

Mesomorphy<sup>4</sup> provides the frame of the body, the muscle, and connective tissue.

Ectomorphy<sup>5</sup>, derived from the ectodermal layer, composes the skin, brain and nervous system predominantly.

Constitutional psychology holds that temperament is intimately associated with these morphological components, expressed in the components viscerotonia, somatotonia, and cerebretonia.<sup>6</sup> These components of temperament are subject

1 William H. Sheldon, S. S. Stevens and W. B. Tucker, The Varieties of Human Physique, p. 7.

2 Ronald D. Elderkin, Thesis, A Constitutional Approach to the Diagnosis and Treatment of Behavior Disorders in Post Adolescent Boys, p. 10.

3 William H. Sheldon, and others, op. cit., p. 5.

4 Ibid, p. 5.

5 Ibid, p. 5.

6 William H. Sheldon and S. S. Stevens, The Varieties of Temperament, p. 10.

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Mesoderm<sup>4</sup> provides the frame of the body, the muscle, and connective tissue.

Endoderm<sup>5</sup>, derived from the endodermal layer, comprises the skin, brain and nervous system predominantly. Constitutional psychology holds that temperament is intimately associated with these morphological components, expressed in the components viscerotonia, somatotonia, and cerebration.<sup>6</sup> These components of temperament are subject

<sup>1</sup> William H. Sheldon, S. S. Stevens and W. B. Tucker, The Varieties of Human Physique, p. 7.  
<sup>2</sup> Ronald D. Eiden, Genetics, A Constitutional Approach to the Diagnosis and Treatment of Behavior Disorders in Post Adolescent Boys, p. 10.  
<sup>3</sup> William H. Sheldon, and others, op. cit., p. 8.  
<sup>4</sup> Ibid., p. 8.  
<sup>5</sup> Ibid., p. 8.  
<sup>6</sup> William H. Sheldon and S. S. Stevens, The Varieties of Temperament, p. 10.



to early conditioning and parental attitudes; on the other hand, each in its basic form is the expression of a morphological component.

The next three levels of personality, the areas of psycho-social adaptation, the subconscious levels and conscious attitudes and beliefs, are the levels subject to the forces of environment. They are areas of personality affected by the mores and social forces. According to constitutional psychology the last three levels constitute the areas responsive to psychoanalysis and therapy which bases methods upon that type of clinical psychology.

Figure II, page 102, presents a diagrammatic picture of the constitutional concept above described.

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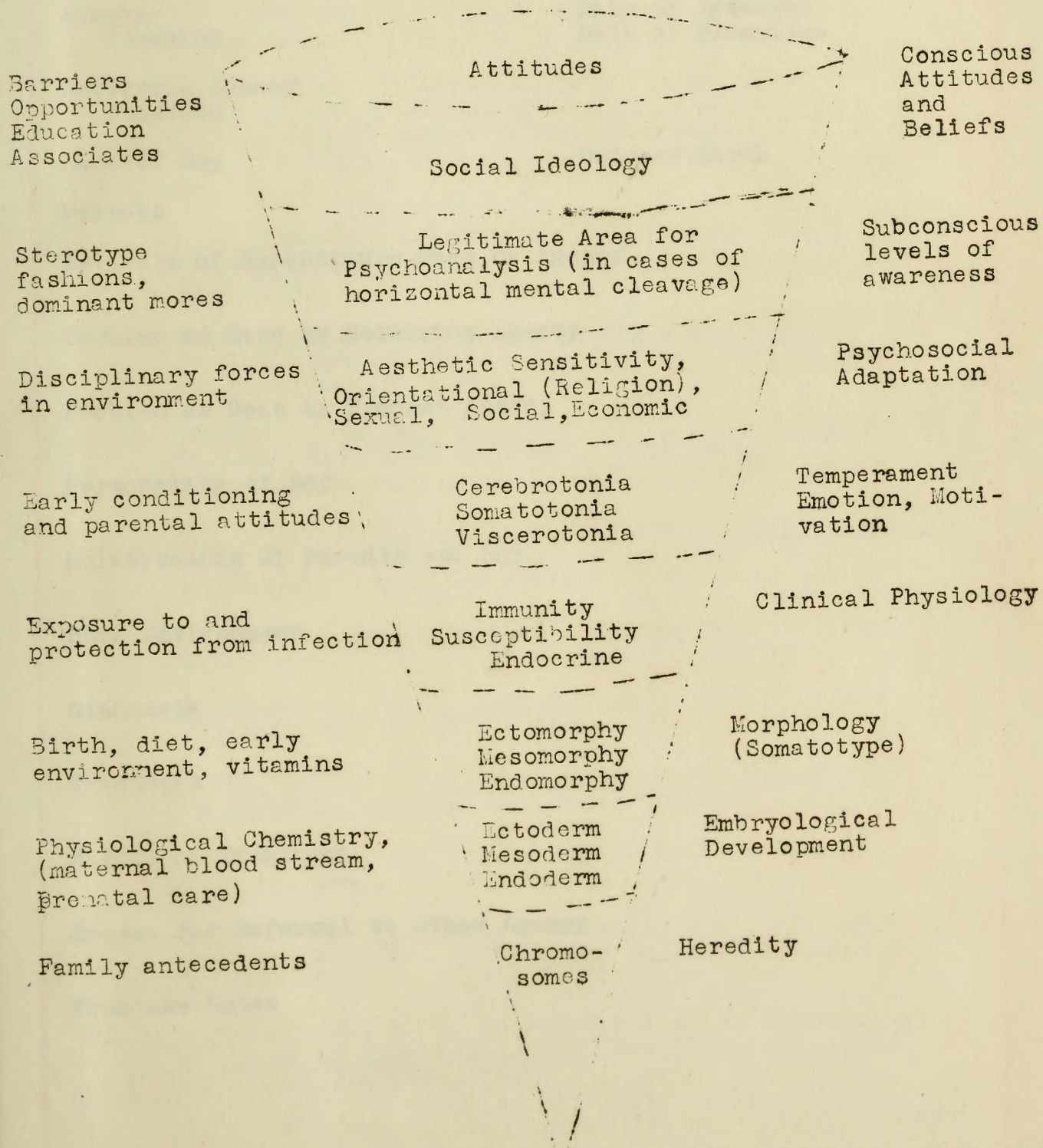
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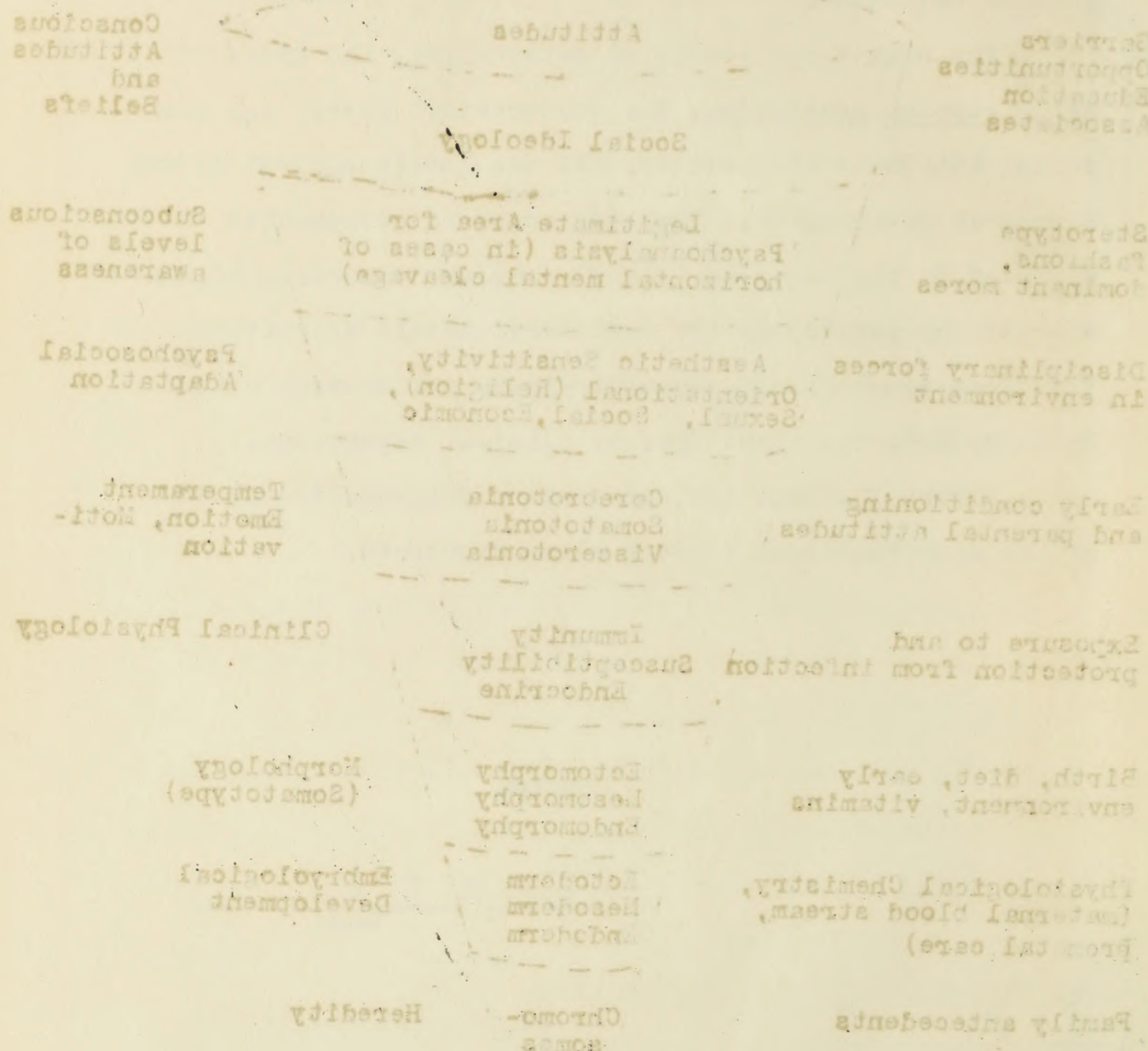


GRAPHIC STRUCTURE OF RELATED LEVELS IN THE  
CONSTITUTIONAL DESCRIPTION OF THE TOTAL PERSONALITY



(Borrowed from R. D. Elderkin's notes based on W.H.S.'s lectures)

GRAPHIC STRUCTURE OF RELATED LEVELS IN THE  
CONSTITUTIONAL DETERMINATION OF THE TOTAL PERSONALITY





## SCHEDULE

Agency August, Harvard Youth. Date of Referral as  
 Function 1933. Date of Discharge  
 Referring Agency E. J. "A Constitutional Approach to the  
 Function Problems and Treatment of Personality Disorders in  
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